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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count report investigates statewide trends in the well-being of Delaware's children. The statistical report is based on 10 indicators of child well being: (1) births to teens; (2) low birth weight babies; (3) infant mortality; (4) child deaths, children 1-14 years; (5) teen violent deaths; (6) juvenile violent crime arrests; (7) high school dropouts; (8) teens not in the labor force and not in school; (9) children in poverty; and (10) children in one-parent households. This report focuses on births to teens as a contributing factor to, and an outcome of, many of the other indicators. Data on teen birth rate are reported for each Delaware county, statewide, and state census tract, and nationwide. Data on indicators are reported for 1993, and for 3-, 5-, and 10-year averages. Findings indicate that Delaware ranks better than the U.S. 5-year average on child deaths, teen violent deaths, high school dropouts, idle teens, and children in poverty; and worse than the national average on the other indicators. The appendix contains 63 tables of data related to the 10 indicators. (KDFB)

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KIDS COUNT IN DELAWARE

FACT BOOK 1996

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kids count IN DELAWARE

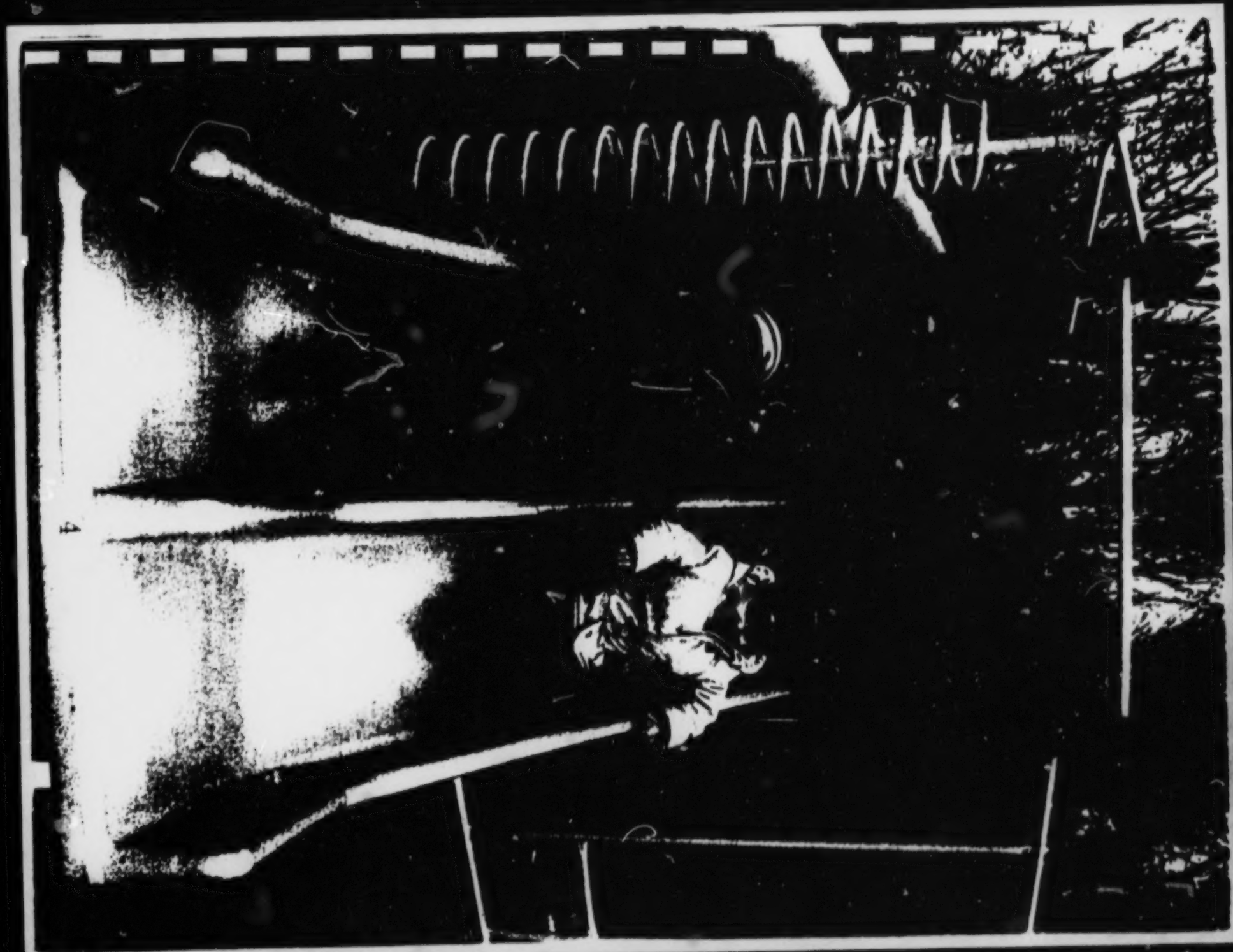
Dedicated to the Memory of

Nancy Lee McKenna

The KIDS COUNT in Delaware Fact Book 1996 is dedicated to Nancy Lee McKenna, one of the founding members of the KIDS COUNT in Delaware Steering Committee. A children's advocate for many years, Nancy served as chairwoman of the Delaware Coalition for Children and Delaware ACTION for Families and Children. In 1980, Governor Pierre S. du Pont IV appointed her to the Foster Care Review Board where she served as Vice Chairperson from 1983 until 1996. From 1983 to 1989 she wrote "A Child is Waiting," a monthly series in *The New Journal* about children available for adoption.

Nancy also helped establish Adoptive Families with Information and Support, a group of people who adopt minority children. She was active in the North American Council on Adoptive Children, serving on its national board of directors as well as state chairwoman.

Nancy McKenna served as a model for those who care about the lives of children. A highly effective advocate, a compassionate colleague and a priceless human being, she will remain a shining example for all.



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KIDS COUNT IN DELAWARE

Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation

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A Message from KIDS COUNT in Delaware

All agree that the future of our society is critically dependent upon the health and welfare of our children. However, since children are invested with little power or influence, their needs often go unmet unless committed adults assume the responsibility to act in their interest.

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better lives for all children. KIDS COUNT in Delaware is dedicated to improving the lives of Delaware's children by making adult Delawareans accountable for the future of our youth. In order to accomplish this goal, KIDS COUNT in Delaware collects, publishes and disseminates key data relevant to the status of our state's children.

In this second edition, ***KIDS COUNT in Delaware Fact Book 1996***, the data for Delaware children on ten tracking indicators is presented and compared with national benchmark data collected and published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. It is intended that the reader will obtain an accurate profile of the status of Delaware's youth, both on an absolute and relative (to U.S. norms) basis. Much additional data are included, particularly in areas relevant to teen pregnancy. KIDS COUNT in Delaware has placed a special priority on understanding and addressing the disturbing statewide and national trends with regard to this indicator. In the near future KIDS COUNT in Delaware will publish two useful documents which focus on this issue—***Helping Teens Delay Parenting: A "Best Practices" Study*** and ***Voices of Delaware's Children: Delaware teenagers talk to each other about sex and teen pregnancy***.

Just a few comments about using this year's Fact Book. The *Appendix* includes a number of new data tables to provide additional detail beyond the 1995 book. Some readers have inquired as to the reason for using data that is 2–3 years "old" at the time of Fact Book publication. This is due to a significant lag time inherent in the collection, analysis and availability of many of the categories of data reported. The reader will also notice that the upper age limit for "child" differs from 17 to 19 years in data sets. This is related to variations in the methods used to collect the data, which are taken from numerous sources.

What does KIDS COUNT in Delaware ask that you do with this information?

Use the data in reports, presentations, program development, grant proposals, lobbying efforts, etc.

Advocate for the well-being of Delaware's children using the data as a valuable and necessary resource.

Disseminate the data to everyone who is or should be interested in the future of our children, so that we can increase the depth and breadth of the community of individuals in our state who are concerned about the status of our youth.

We at KIDS COUNT in Delaware welcome your comments and suggestions as to how we may better serve you in your efforts to improve the lives of our children. Please join us in this important mission.

Steven A. Dowsben, M.D.
Chair, Data Committee
KIDS COUNT in Delaware

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KIDS COUNT in Delaware

KIDS COUNT in Delaware is a project funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation which profiles the status of children in Delaware by tracking indicators of economic well-being, health, safety and education. The objective of this project is to promote widespread ownership and accountability for improving those indicators.

The ten featured indicators in this book have been chosen by the national KIDS COUNT project because they provide a picture of the actual condition of children rather than a summary of programs delivered or funds expended on behalf of children. These indicators have three attributes:

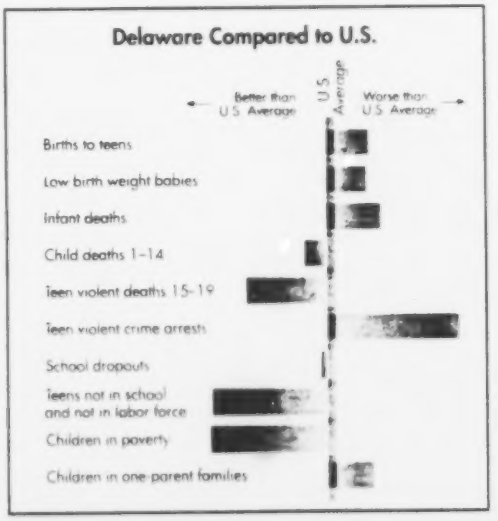
1) They reflect a broad range of influences affecting the well-being of children.

2) They reflect experiences across the developmental stages from birth through early adulthood.

3) They are consistent across states and over time, permitting legitimate comparisons.

The featured indicators are:

1) Births to teens
2) Low birth weight babies
3) Infant deaths
4) Child deaths 1–14
5) Teen violent deaths 15–19
6) Teen violent crime arrests
7) School dropouts
8) Teens not in school and not in labor force
9) Children in poverty
10) Children in one-parent families



KIDS COUNT in Delaware is focusing special attention on Births to Teens. Early parenting is both a contributing factor to, and an outcome of, many of the other indicators. In interviews with policy makers, educators, service providers, and others interested in children's well-being throughout the state, births to teens was identified as the issue most timely to address because it typically restricts the developmental process of two generations of children.

By providing insight into the magnitude of the problem and the geographic areas in which adolescents are in special need of help, KIDS COUNT in Delaware is contributing to the statewide effort to help adolescents delay parenting. In this book, we have presented data on birth rates of teens 15–17 in the U.S., Delaware, individual counties, and census tracts throughout the state. Birth rates for adolescents 15–19 and unmarried teens are reported for the U.S., Delaware, and the counties in Delaware.

With each indicator, we have noted its association to other indicators. For example, teen parenting is highly related to school dropouts, low birth weight babies, infant mortality, children in one-parent families, and children in poverty. Growing up in poverty increases many risks, including adolescent parenting and dropping out of school. Growing up in a single-parent family increases the likelihood of living in poverty, dropping out of school, and becoming an adolescent parent. Reducing adolescent parenting is one way to break this cycle of poor outcomes for children and youth.

Sources of Data

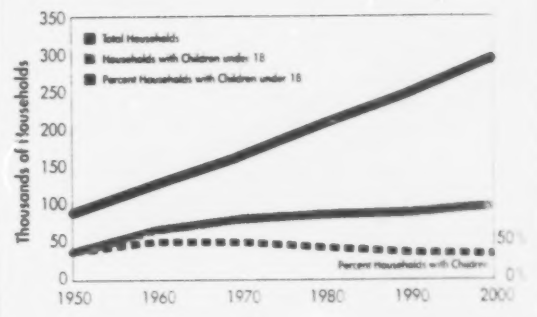
The data are reported primarily for three time frames:

1) Annual data for 1993
2) Three-year and five-year averages through 1993 to minimize the fluctuations of single-year data and provide more realistic pictures of children's outcomes
3) Annual, 3-year, or 5-year average data for a decade or longer to illustrate trends and permit long-term comparisons

Much of the data are provided by the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware, and are gathered primarily from:

1) U.S. Bureau of the Census
2) National Center for Health Statistics
3) Population Reference Bureau
4) Delaware Health Statistics Center
5) Delaware Economic Development Office
6) Delaware Department of Public Instruction
7) Statistical Analysis Center

Households with Children 0–17

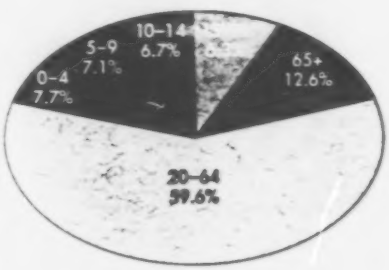


Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

The percentage of households with children has been slowly declining since 1960. The greater rate of increase in the number of households without children than households with children is due primarily to more one-person households. Aging of the population is also contributing to an increased number of households without young children, especially older married couples.

Population Estimate and Age Distribution

Delaware, 1993



Total Estimated Population

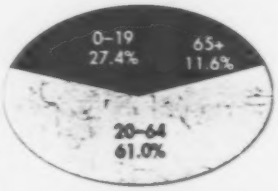
Delaware Total	693,067
Total Children 0–19	192,679
Children 0–4	53,575
Children 5–9	49,149
Children 10–14	46,428
Children 15–19	43,527

Source: Delaware Population Consortium

Note: This book reports 1993 data because it is the most recent year for which data are available for both Delaware and the U.S. on the indicators.

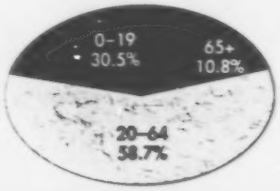
Age Distribution

Delaware by County, 1993



New Castle County

Total Population	455,222
Children 0–19	124,843



Kent County

Total Population	116,844
Children 0–19	35,639

Sussex County

Total Population	121,001
Children 0–19	32,197

Overview

KIDS COUNT National Rank – Delaware's rank among the 50 states in 1993, 1 being the best and 50 being the worst

Definitions

Birth Rate – number of births per 1,000 females in the same age group

Low Birth Weight Babies – percentage of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) at birth (includes very low birth weight)

Infant Mortality Rate – number of deaths occurring in the first year of life per 1,000 live births

Child Death Rate – number of deaths per 100,000 children 1–14

Teen Violent Death Rate – number of violent deaths per 100,000 teenagers 15–19; includes accidents, homicides, and suicides

← Delaware better than U.S. 5-yr. average | Delaware worse than U.S. 5-yr. average →

U.S. Average →

Births to Teens

Per 1,000 Girls 15–17

Five Year Averages, 1989–93: Delaware – 42.3
U.S. – 37.6

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 33

1993: Delaware 39 • U.S. 38

Low Birth Weight Babies

Percent of Live Births

Five Year Averages, 1989–93: Delaware – 7.7
U.S. – 6.9

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 39

1993: Delaware 7.8 • U.S. 7.2

Infant Mortality

Rate Per 1,000 Live Births

Five Year Averages, 1989–93: Delaware – 10.4
U.S. – 8.9

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 33

1993: Delaware 8.8 • U.S. 8.4

Child Deaths

Rate Per 100,000 Children 1–14

Five Year Averages, 1989–93: Delaware – 29.6
U.S. – 30.4

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 16

1993: Delaware 28 • U.S. 30

Teen Violent Deaths

Per 100,000 Teens 15–19

Five Year Averages, 1989–93: Delaware – 49.9
U.S. – 69.4

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 7

Three Year Averages 1992–94: Delaware 47 • U.S. 69

Delaware better than U.S. 5 yr. average ← → Delaware worse than U.S. 5 yr. average

U.S. Average →

Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests

Per 1,000 Children, 10–17

1993: Delaware – 7.1
U.S. – 4.9

KIDS COUNT National Rank not established

High School Drop-Outs

Percent of Teens Ages 16–19

Three Year Averages, 1992–94: Delaware – 9.0
U.S. – 9.2

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 15

1993: Delaware 7 • U.S. 9

Teens Not Attending School and Not Working

Percent of Teens, Ages 16–19

Three Year Averages, 1992–94: Delaware – 6.0
U.S. – 10.0

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 4

Three Year Averages 1992–94: Delaware 6 • U.S. 10

Children in Poverty

Percent of Children

Three Year Averages, 1992–94: Delaware – 13.3
U.S. – 22.5

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 1

Five Year Averages 1991–95: Delaware 11 • U.S. 21

Children in One-Parent Households

Percent of Children Ages 0–17

Three Year Averages, 1992–94: Delaware – 32.8
U.S. – 28.8

KIDS COUNT National Rank 1993: 39

Percent of Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent

Five Year Averages 1991–95: Delaware 27 • U.S. 26

KIDS COUNT National Rank – Delaware's rank among the 50 states in 1993, 1 being the best and 50 being the worst.

Definitions

Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate – number of arrests for violent crimes per 1,000 children 10–17; includes homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

High School Drop-Outs – percentage of youths 16–19 who are not in school and not high school grads.

Teens Not Attending School and Not Working – percentage of teenagers 16–19 who are not in school and not employed.

Children in Poverty – percentage of children in poverty; in 1993 the poverty threshold for a one-parent, two-child family was $11,642. For a family of four with two children, the threshold was $14,664.

Children in One-Parent Households – percentage of children living with one parent. Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent is a National KIDS COUNT indicator.

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Births to Teens 15–17

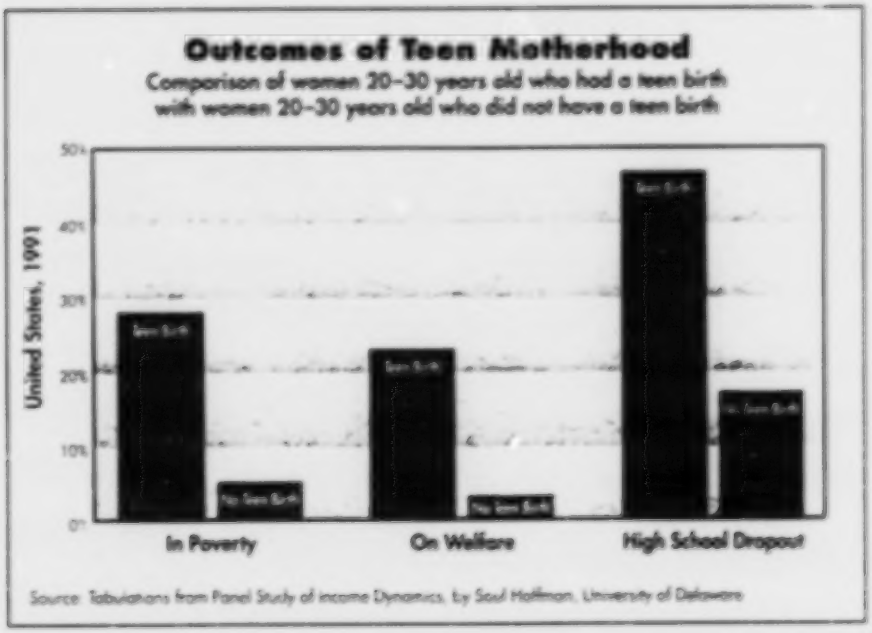
Impact:

Between 80% and 90% of teen pregnancies are unintended. Pregnancy is unexpected and unwelcome because it interrupts schooling and requires that teens focus on dependent children when they should be continuing to develop socially, educationally and physically.

There is considerable evidence that early motherhood imposes economic disadvantages on both generations. In the U.S. about 40% of mothers who give birth during their teen years graduate from high school, and only 4% graduate from college. With limited education and less likelihood of marrying than non-parenting teens, early motherhood severely restricts opportunities for economic self-sufficiency.

Definition

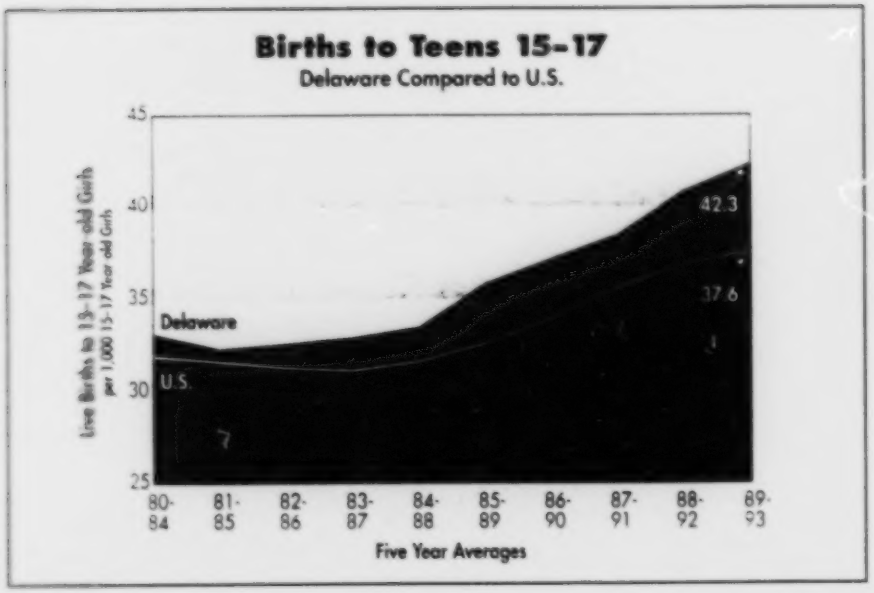
Birth Rate – number of births per 1,000 females in the same age group

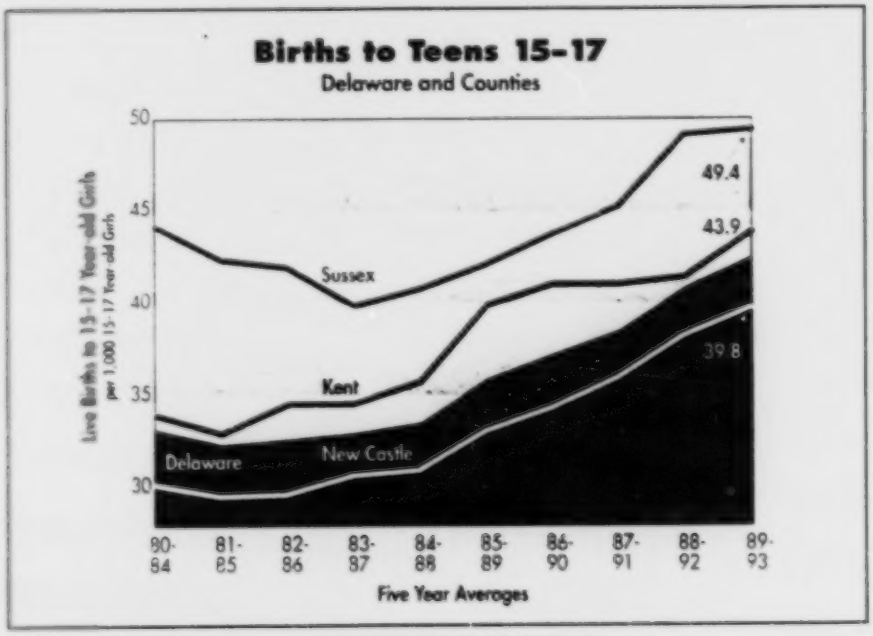


Source: Tabulations from Panel Study of Income Dynamics, by Saul Hoffman, University of Delaware

Although long-term research has shown that some teen mothers are quite resilient, the greater hardship falls on their children. One reason children are more vulnerable than their parents is that interventions are often available only on a short-term basis and do not take into account children's long-term developmental needs.

Infants born to teen mothers are at greater risk for low birth weight, infant mortality, and living in poverty. Poverty is the greatest predictor of poor outcomes for children. Poor children are less likely to get appropriate medical care, be ready for school, have school success, and graduate from high school. And there is a high probability that they will repeat the cycle and become teen parents.





Sources: Population Reference Bureau, National KIDS COUNT, Child Trends, Inc., Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

For more information see

Percentage of Babies with Low Birth Weight by Age and Race of Mother p. 21

Infant Deaths Per 1,000 Live Births by Age of Mother p. 23

Children in Poverty p. 34–35

Children in One-Parent Households p. 36–37

Tables 4–8 p. 43–47

Table 10–11 p. 48–49

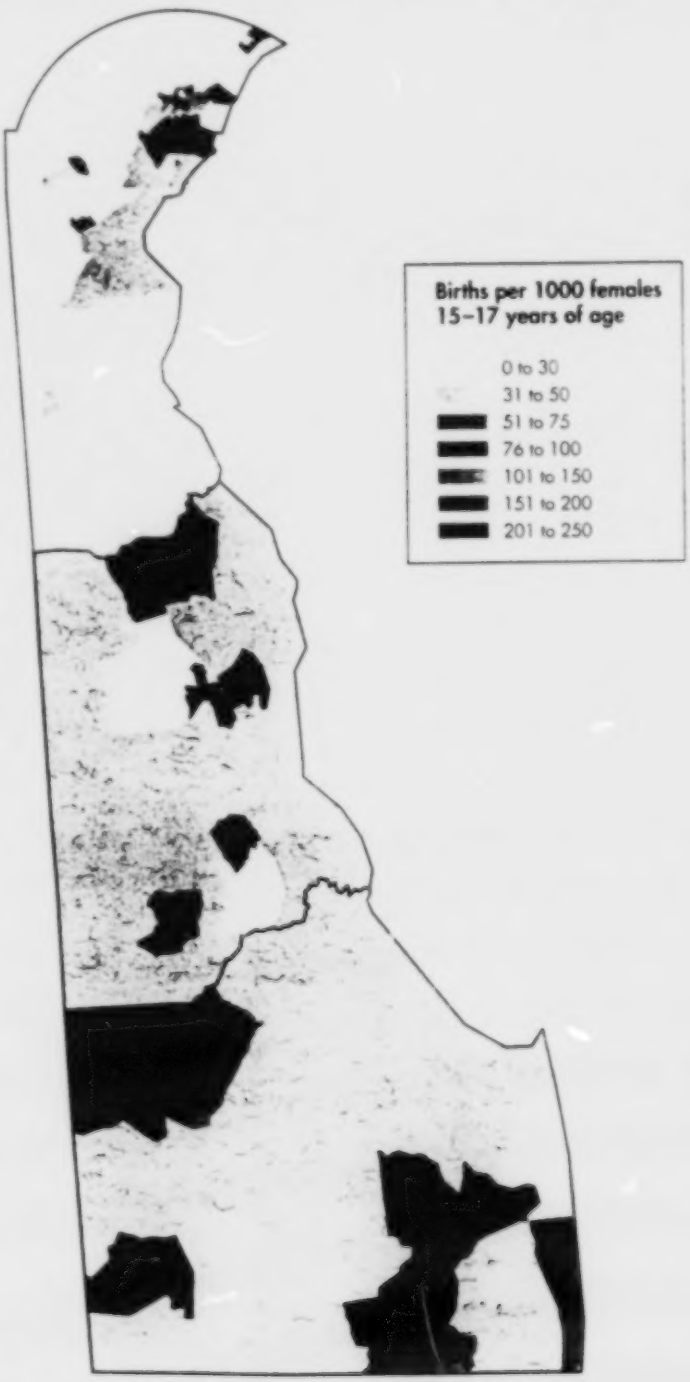
The birth rate for 15–17 year old females in Delaware has consistently been higher than the U.S. rate, and the gap appears to be widening. In 1993, 32 states had lower birth rates for 15–17 year old females than Delaware.

Sussex County continues to have the highest birth rates for this age group. However, birth rates in some census tracts in Wilmington exceed census tract rates in Sussex County. See pages 14–17.

Births to Teens 15–17

Birth Rates for Girls 15–17

by Census Tract, Delaware, Five-Year Average, 1989–93



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

Birth Rates for Girls 15–17

by Census Tract, New Castle County, Five-Year Average, 1989–93

The birth rates shown here are delineated by census tracts. The areas with teen birth rates over 50 are shown with census tract numbers. For census tract descriptions, call Evelyn Pearson or Michael Mahaffie at the State Data Center (302) 737-4271.

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

Births to Teens 15–17

Birth Rates for Girls 15–17
by Census Tract, Kent County, Five-Year Average, 1989–93
410
412
Births per 1000 females 15–17 years of age
0 to 30
31 to 50
51 to 75
76 to 100
The birth rates shown here are delineated by census tracts. The areas with teen birth rates over 50 are shown with census tract numbers. For census tract descriptions, call Evelyn Pearson or Michael Mahaffie at the State Data Center (302) 737-4271.
Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

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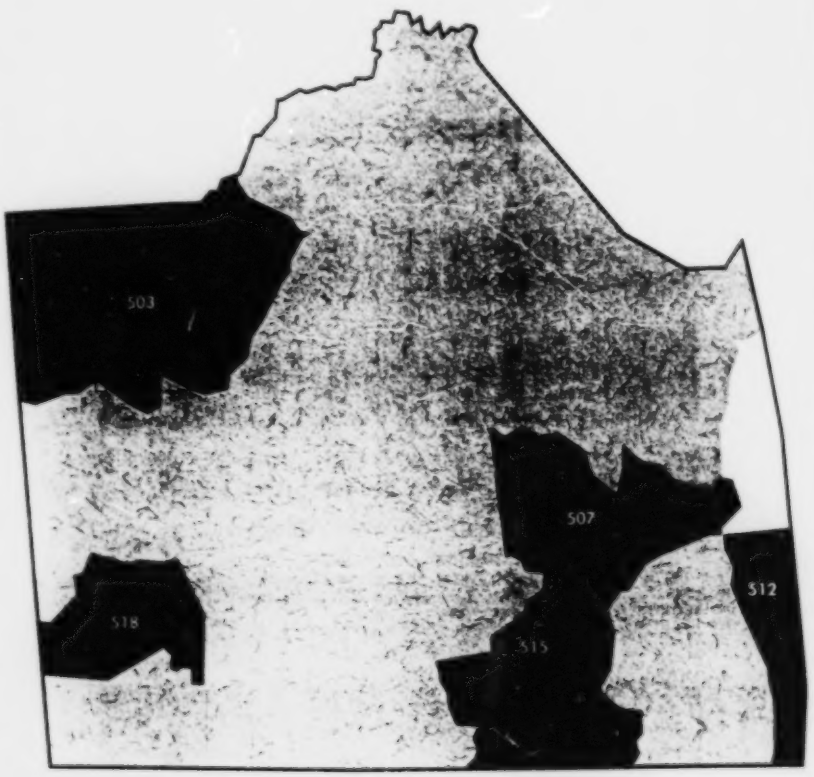
Birth Rates for Girls 15–17

by Census Tract, Sussex County, Five-Year Average, 1989–93



Births per 1000 females 15–17 years of age

- 0 to 30
- 31 to 50
- 51 to 75
- 76 to 100

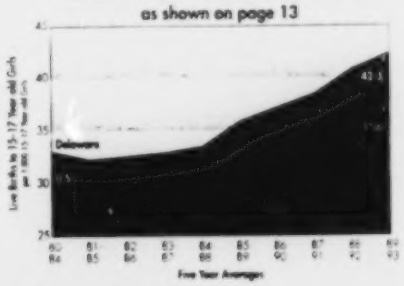
The birth rates shown here are delineated by census tracts. The areas with teen birth rates over 50 are shown with census tract numbers. For census tract descriptions, call Evelyn Pearson or Michael Mahaffie at the State Data Center (302) 737-4271.

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware.

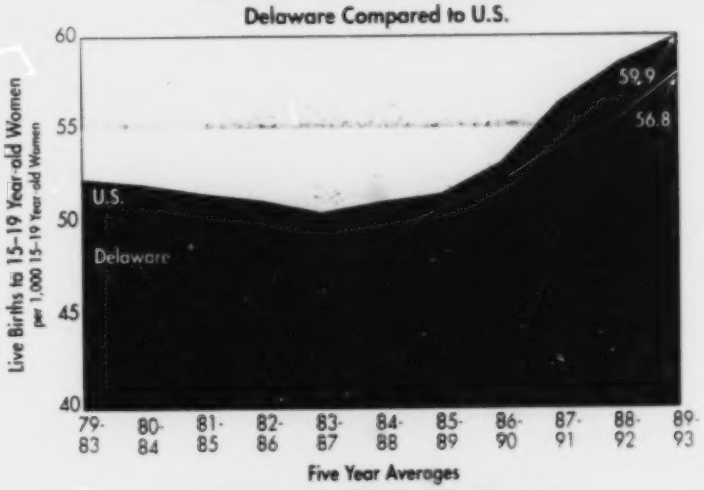
Births to Teens 15–19

While the birth rate for all Delaware teens 15–19 is lower than the national rate, the birth rate for this age group in Kent and Sussex Counties exceeds both the state and the national rate.

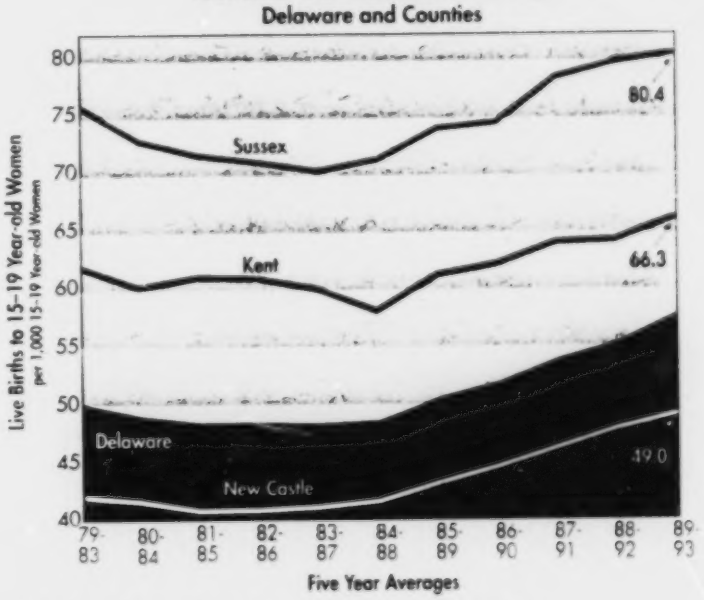
Births to Teens 15–17
as shown on page 13



Births to Teens 15–19
Delaware Compared to U.S.



Births to Teens 15–19
Delaware and Counties



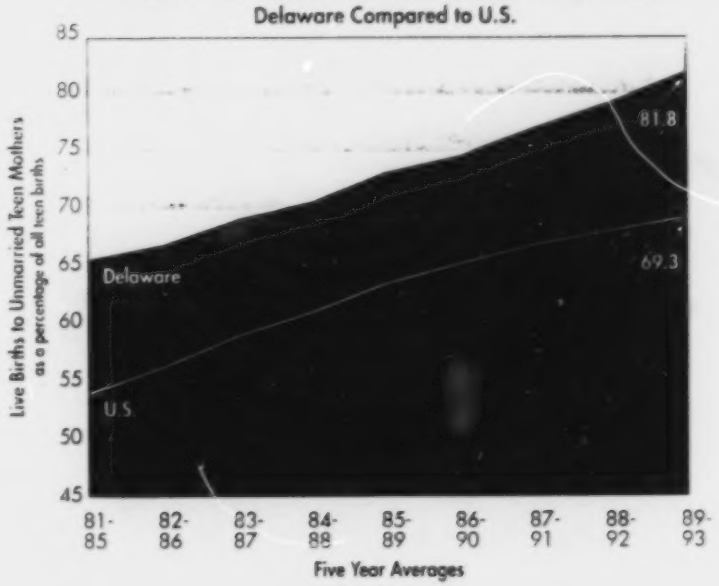
Sources: Population Reference Bureau, National KIDS COUNT, Child Trends, Inc.; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

2i

More teen mothers in Kent and Sussex Counties are married at the time of the child's birth than are the same-age mothers in New Castle County. The birth rate for unmarried teen mothers in New Castle County is higher than the rate for the state, and the rates for all three counties are higher than the national rate. This phenomenon contributes to a higher rate of children in single-parent families in Delaware than in the U.S.

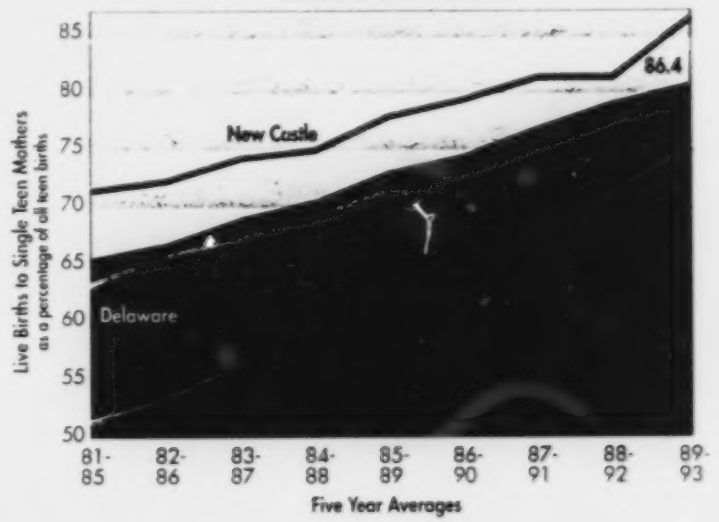
Births to Unmarried Teen Mothers

Delaware Compared to U.S.



Births to Unmarried Teen Mothers

Delaware and Counties



Sources: Population Reference Bureau, National KIDS COUNT, Child Trends, Inc.; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

Low Birth Weight Babies

Impact:

Low birth weight is the single most reliable predictor of infant mortality. Low birth weight is also associated with prolonged expensive hospitalizations, with persistent health problems throughout childhood and into adulthood, and with an increased risk for developmental delays and disabilities. Many low birth weight babies also have major birth defects.

Definitions

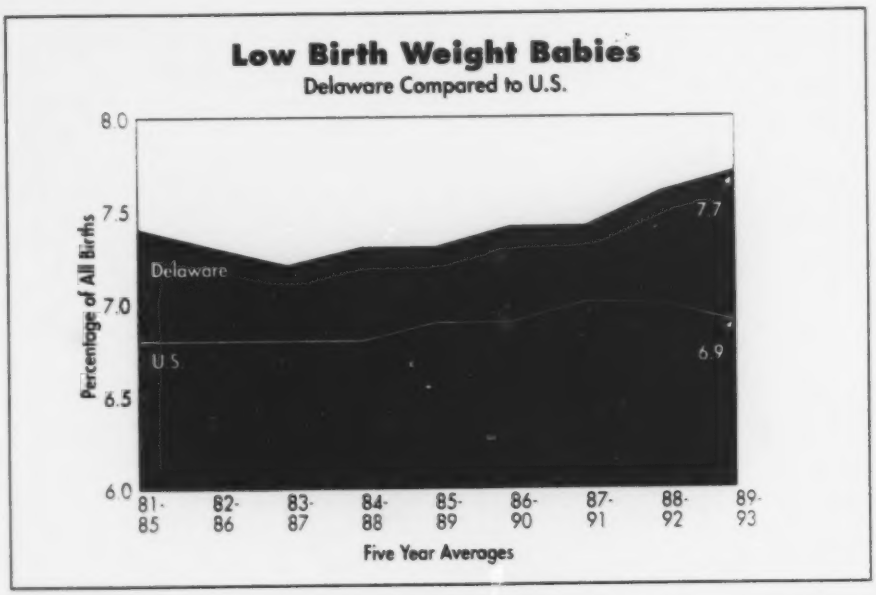
Neonatal – the period from birth to 27 days

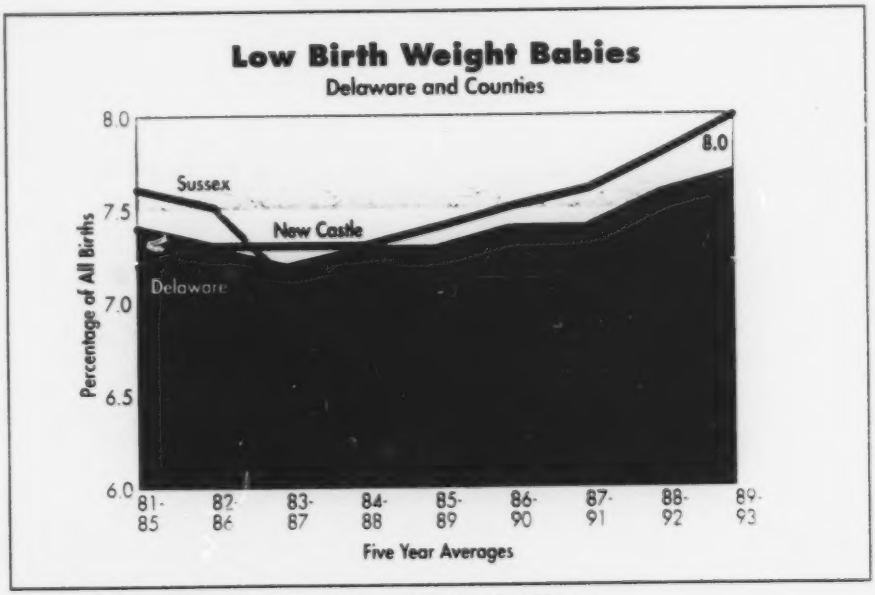
Infancy – the period from birth to one year

Low Birth Weight – less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) (includes very low birth weight)

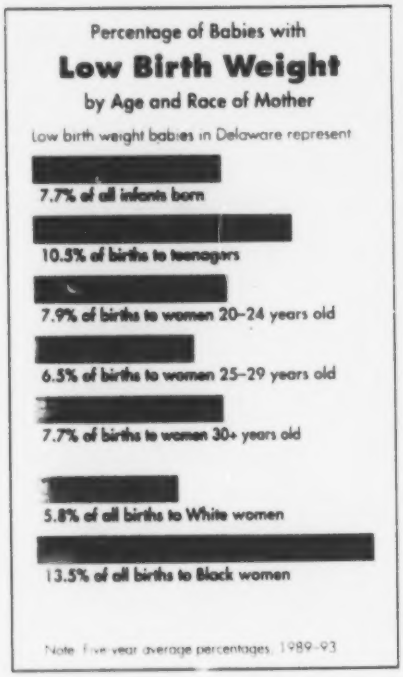
Very Low Birth Weight – less than 1,500 grams (3.3 lbs.)

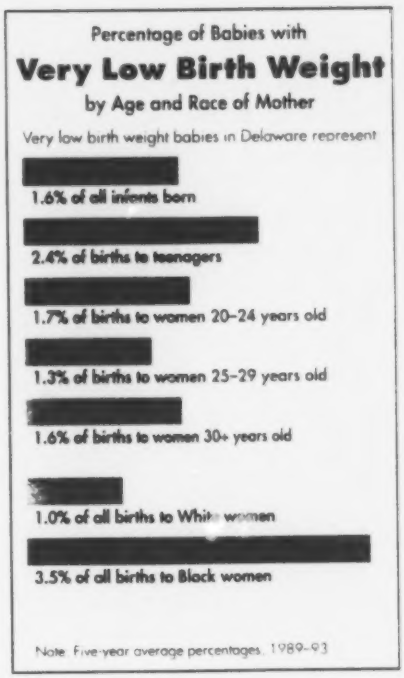
Adequate Prenatal Care – adequacy of prenatal care as measured by the Kessner Index





Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services


Percentage of Babies with
Low Birth Weight
by Age and Race of Mother
Low birth weight babies in Delaware represent
7.7% of all infants born
10.5% of births to teenagers
7.9% of births to women 20–24 years old
6.5% of births to women 25–29 years old
7.7% of births to women 30+ years old
5.8% of all births to White women
13.5% of all births to Black women
Note: Five-year average percentages, 1989–93


Percentage of Babies with
Very Low Birth Weight
by Age and Race of Mother
Very low birth weight babies in Delaware represent
1.6% of all infants born
2.4% of births to teenagers
1.7% of births to women 20–24 years old
1.3% of births to women 25–29 years old
1.6% of births to women 30+ years old
1.0% of all births to White women
3.5% of all births to Black women
Note: Five-year average percentages, 1989–93

For more information see

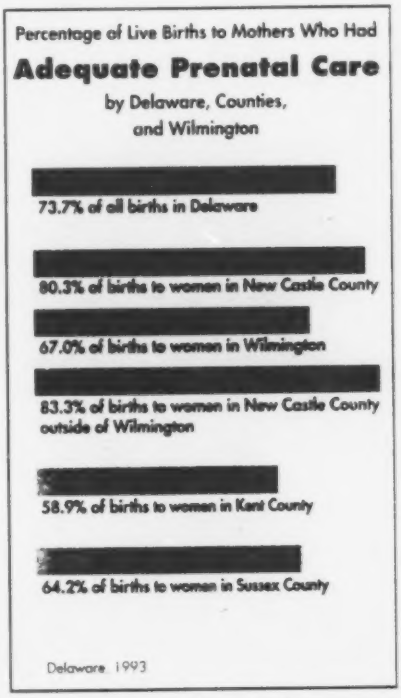
Infant Deaths Per 1,000 Live Births by Birth Weight of Infant p. 23

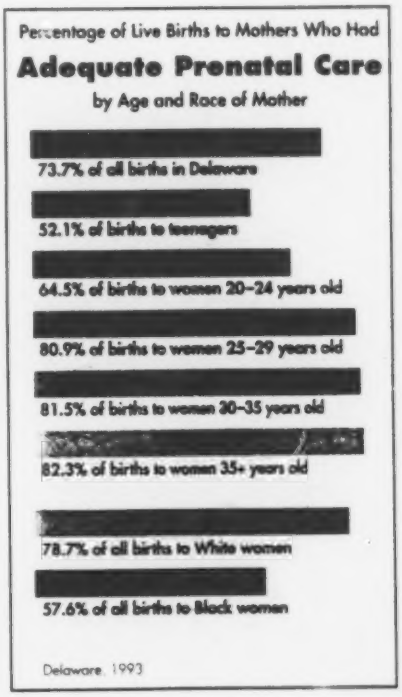
Tables 9–15 p. 48–52

Contributing factors

1) Women who do not get adequate prenatal care are more likely to give birth to low birth weight babies. The Kessner Index defines adequate prenatal care as (a) the first prenatal visit occurring during the first trimester of pregnancy and (b) periodic visits throughout pregnancy totaling nine or more prenatal visits by the 36th week of gestation. Inadequate care is defined as (a) the first prenatal visit occurring during the third trimester of pregnancy or (b) four or fewer prenatal visits by the 34th weeks of gestation. When the time of the initial visit and the total number of prenatal visits falls between these parameters, the adequacy of prenatal care is rated intermediate.

2) Poor health habits during pregnancy, particularly at critical points in fetal development, contribute to low birth weight, physical and mental impairment, and infant mortality. Early prenatal care encourages mothers to reduce, or abstain from, drug, alcohol, and tobacco use during pregnancy and to eat healthy foods.


Percentage of Live Births to Mothers Who Had
Adequate Prenatal Care
by Delaware, Counties, and Wilmington
73.7% of all births in Delaware
80.3% of births to women in New Castle County
67.0% of births to women in Wilmington
83.3% of births to women in New Castle County outside of Wilmington
58.9% of births to women in Kent County
64.2% of births to women in Sussex County
Delaware, 1993


Percentage of Live Births to Mothers Who Had
Adequate Prenatal Care
by Age and Race of Mother
73.7% of all births in Delaware
52.1% of births to teenagers
64.5% of births to women 20–24 years old
80.9% of births to women 25–29 years old
81.5% of births to women 30–35 years old
82.3% of births to women 35+ years old
78.7% of all births to White women
57.6% of all births to Black women
Delaware, 1993

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Infant Mortality

There were 94 infant deaths in Delaware in 1995. Seventy-three percent of those infants died in the first 27 days of life, the neonatal period.

For the period 1989–1993, the neonatal death rate in Delaware was 7.2. This rate continues to be higher than the national rate of 5.7 for the same period, while the post-neonatal rate of 5.1 in Delaware is slightly lower than the national rate of 5.5. Based on five-year averages for 1989–93, Delaware had a national rank on this indicator of 42nd among all states (see Table 1o, page 53). For 1995 only, Delaware had a KIDS COUNT national rank of 33.

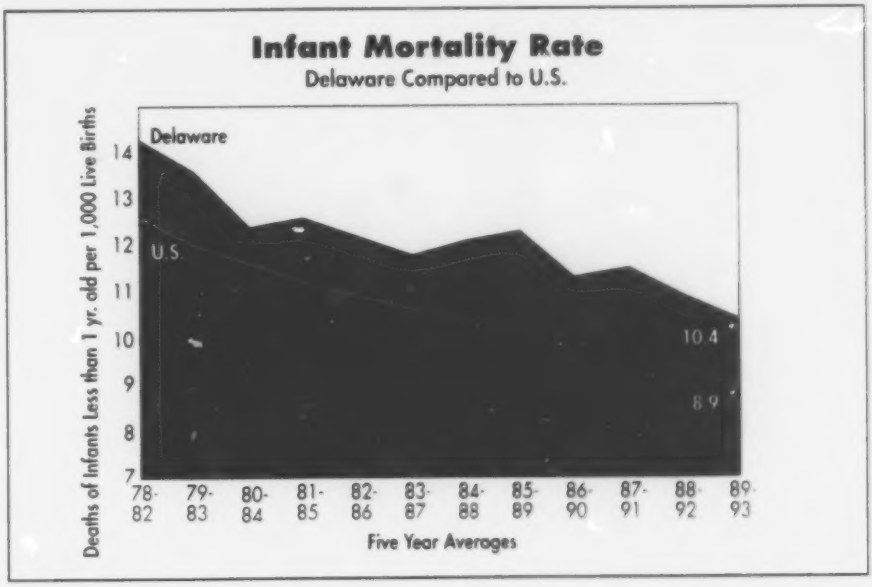
Definitions

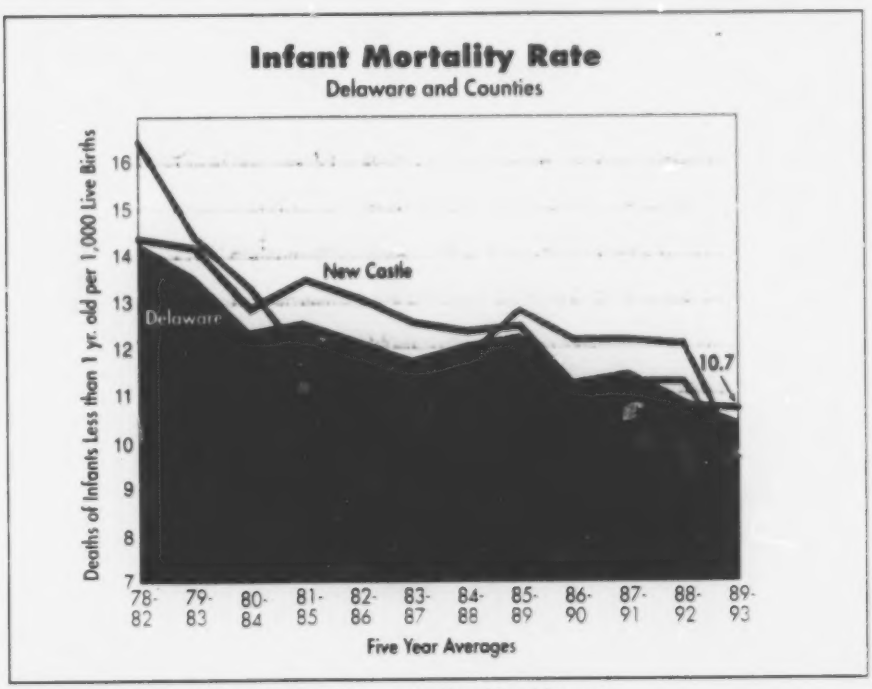
Neonatal – the period from birth to 27 days

Post-neonatal – the period from 28 days to one year

Infancy – the period from birth to one year

Infant Mortality Rate – deaths in the first year of life per 1,000 live births





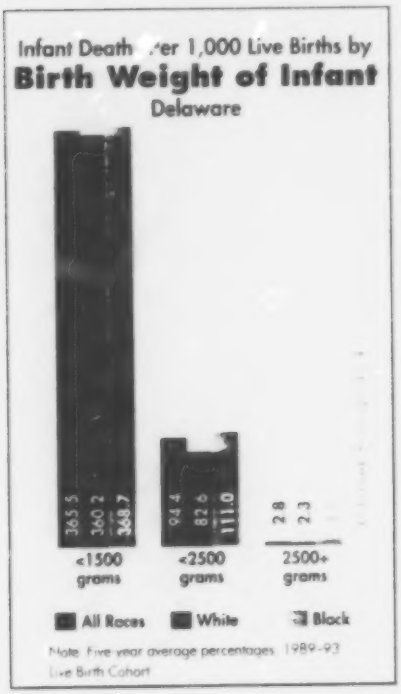
Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services

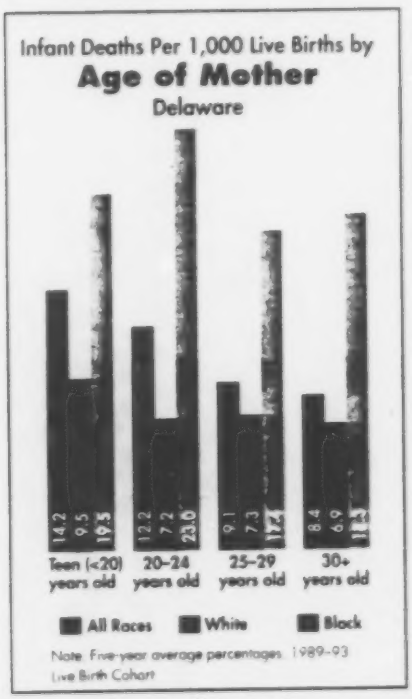
Contributing factors

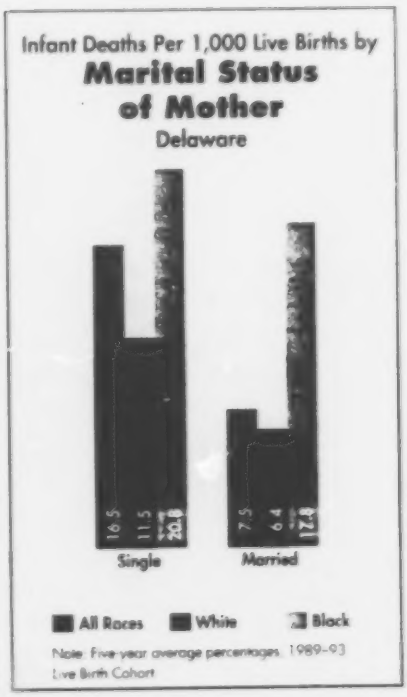
Infant death rates are significantly influenced by economic and social factors. Higher infant death rates occur in communities in which several of these factors are common:

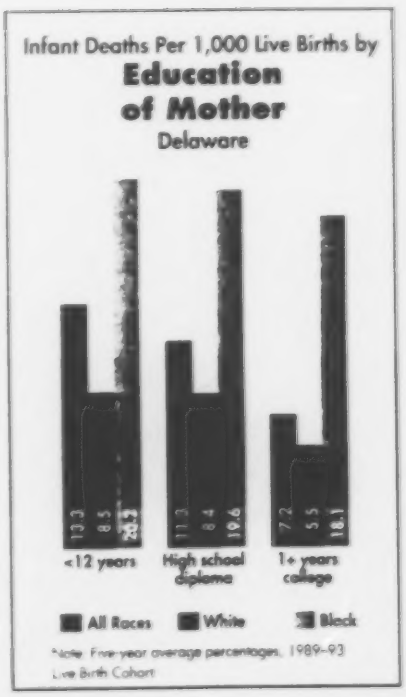
a. Low birth weight babies
b. Teen child bearing
c. Births to single mothers
d. Low levels of educational achievement by mothers

For more information see
Tables 16–21 p. 53–57







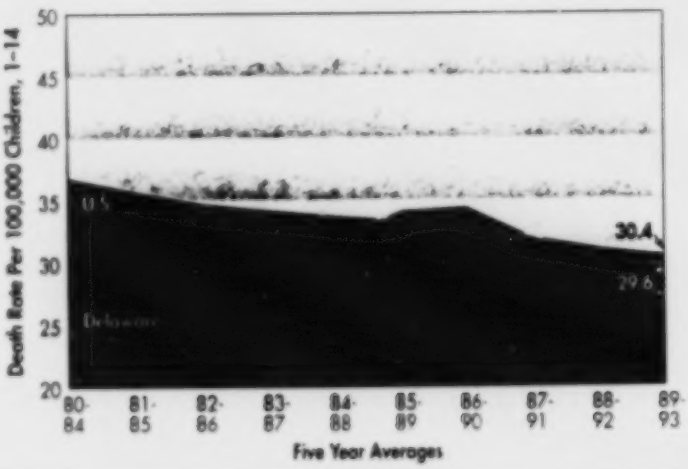


Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Child Deaths, Children 1–14 Years of Age

According to National KIDS COUNT, in 1993, 15 states had lower child death rates than Delaware. Between 1985 and 1993, there has been a 35% improvement in this indicator in the state.

Child Deaths
Delaware Compared to U.S.

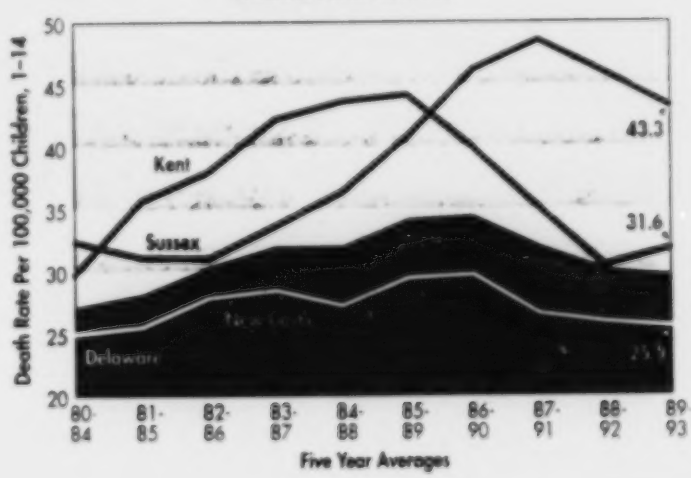


Definitions

Child Death Rate – number of deaths per 100,000 children divided by age groups: 1 to 4 and 5 to 14

Unintentional Injuries – accidents, including motor vehicle crashes

Child Deaths
Delaware and Counties



Sources: Population Reference Bureau, National KIDS COUNT Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware, Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services

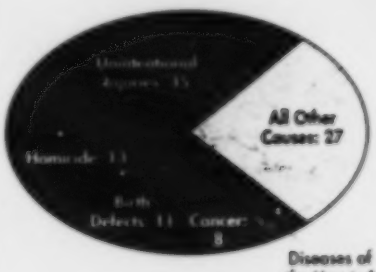
Number of Children 1-14 Who Died in 1993

in Delaware by County and Age

	1-4	5-9	10-14
Delaware	17	7	14
New Castle	8	3	7
Kent	5	2	5
Sussex	4	2	2

Causes of Death of Children 1-4

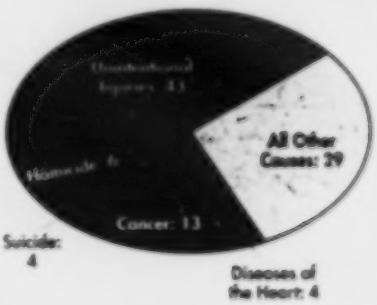
Delaware, 1989-1993



98 Children

Causes of Death of Children 5-14

Delaware, 1989-1993



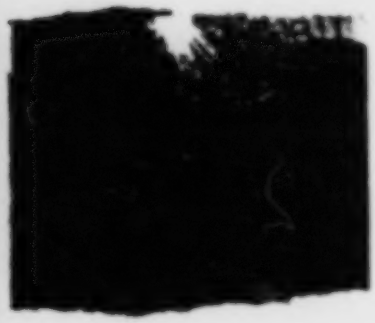
99 Children

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services

For more information see

Infant Mortality	p. 22-23
Teen Violent Deaths	p. 26-27
Tables 22-27	p. 58-62

Teen Violent Deaths



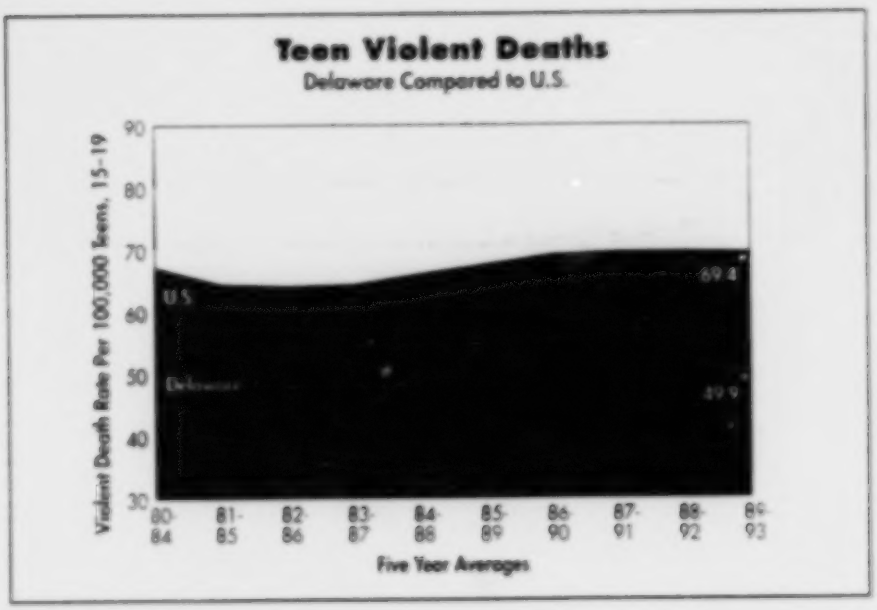
Delaware has consistently had a lower rate of teen violent deaths than the U.S. rate. For the 5-year period 1992–94, the average teen violent death rate in Delaware was 47 compared to the U.S. rate of 69. This resulted in Delaware ranking as the 7th safest state in relation to this indicator.

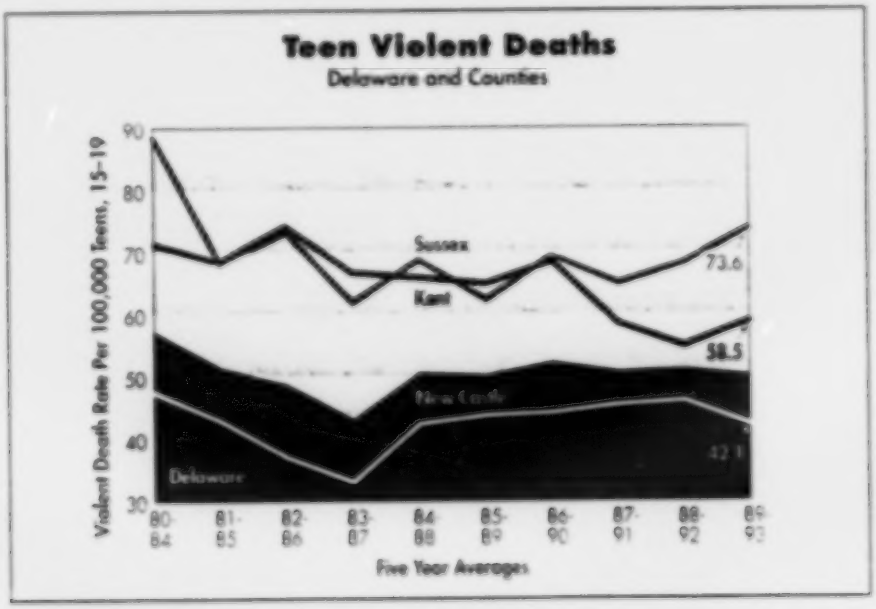
Definitions

Teen Death Rate – deaths per 100,000 youth 15–19 years old

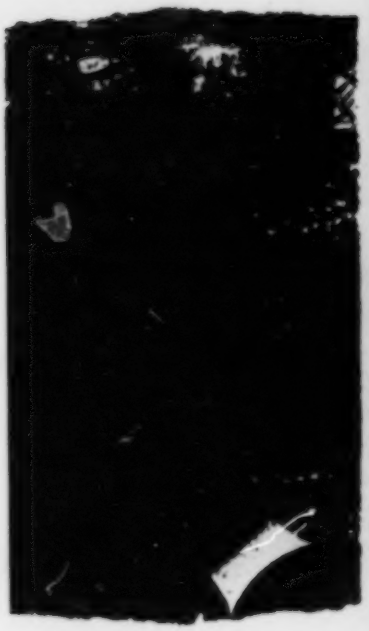
Teen Violent Death Rate – number of violent deaths per 100,000 teenagers 15–19; includes accidents, homicides, and suicides

Unintentional Injuries – accidents including motor vehicle crashes





Sources: Population Reference Bureau; National KIDS COUNT; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware; Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services

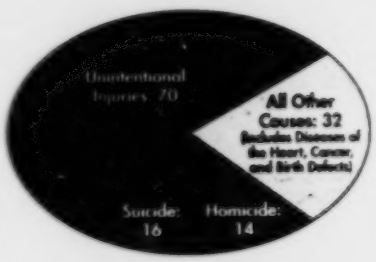


Number of Violent Deaths of Youth 15–19 in 1993 in Delaware by Cause

Homicide	2 males and 1 female
Suicide	1 male and 2 females
Motor Vehicle Crashes	6 males and 5 females
Other Unintentional Injuries	2 males and 1 females

Causes of Death of Teens 15–19

Delaware, 1989–1993


Unintentional Injuries: 70
All Other Causes: 32
(Includes Diseases of the Heart, Cancer, and Birth Defects)
Suicide: 16
Homicide: 14

132 Teens

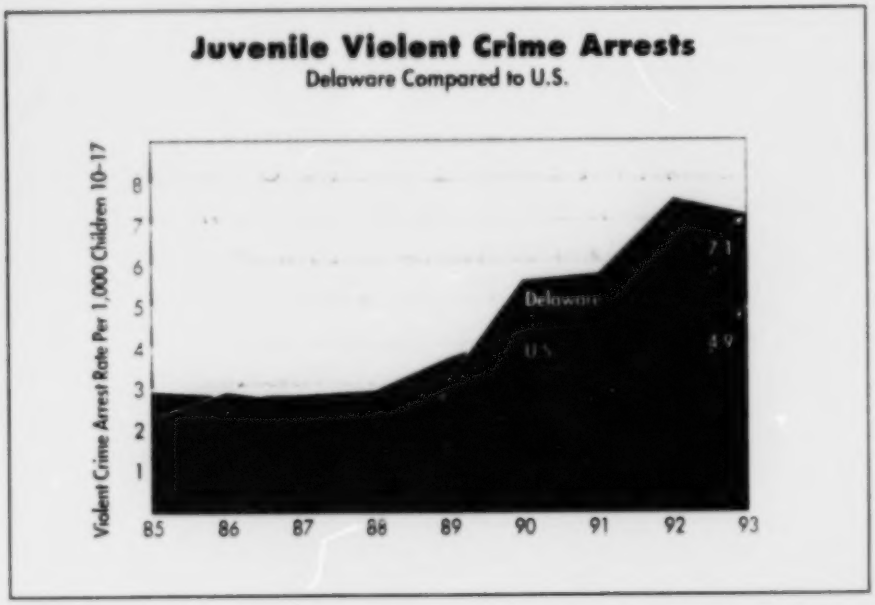
Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center / Delaware Health and Social Services

For more information see

Infant Deaths	p. 22–23
Child Deaths, 1–14	p. 24–25
Tables 22–27	p. 58–62

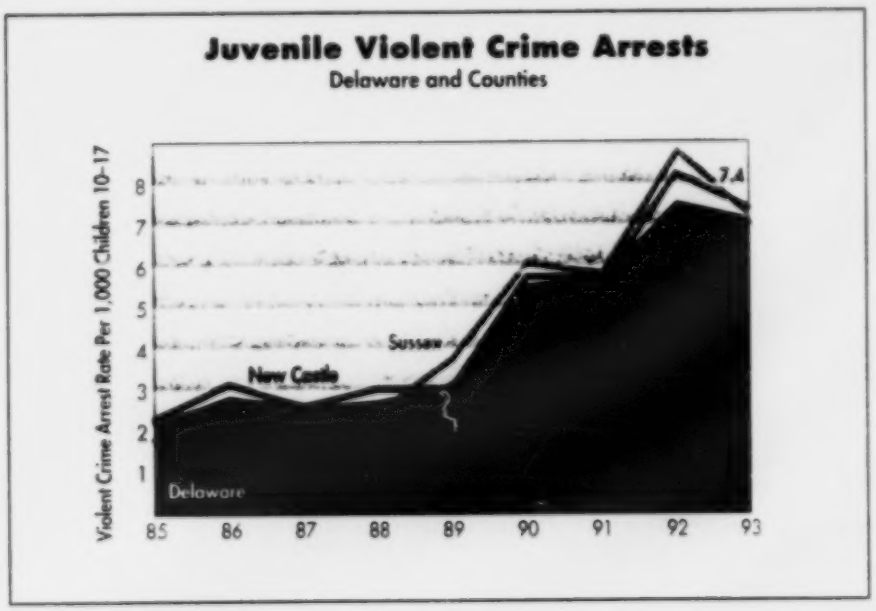
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests

There was a slight decline in the number of juvenile arrests for violent crimes from 1992 to 1993, despite a 40% increase in forcible rape. In that time period, there were fewer arrests for robbery and aggravated assault and the same number for manslaughter.

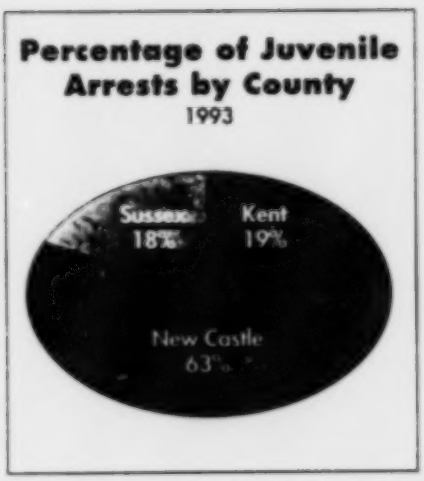


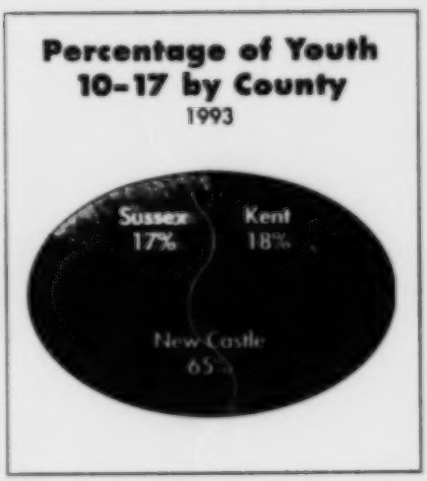
Definitions

Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate – the number of arrests for violent crimes per 1,000 children 10–17; violent crimes include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault



Sources: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

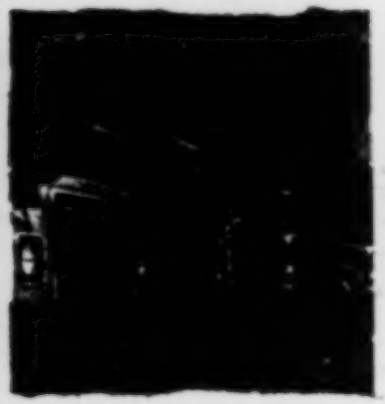




Sources: Statistical Analysis Center, State Bureau of Investigation

For more information see
Tables 28–35 p. 63–66

High School Dropouts



Impact:

Youth who do not complete high school are more likely to be unemployed or underemployed throughout their lives. The risk of lifelong poverty increases for high school dropouts as manufacturing jobs are replaced by work requiring specific skills. Parents' levels of education play a great role in their children's development. Youth who drop out of school place themselves and the next generation at risk for poor outcomes.

Definitions

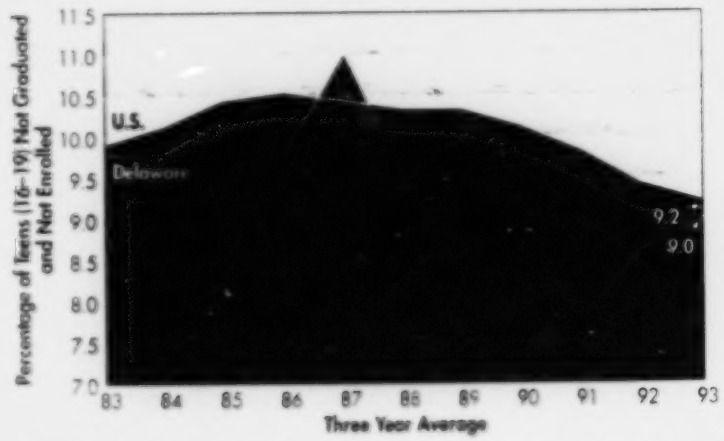
Graduation rate – graduation from public high school within four years of starting grade nine

High school drop outs – 16–19 year olds not in school and not high school graduates

Day school – normal school hours for public school students

Public High School Dropouts

Delaware Compared to U.S.



Note: The data shown here represent three year moving averages. For example, the figure for 1984 is based on an average of statistics for the years 1983-1985. Variations in the Delaware graph are due to sampling size of the data collection. Data are collected through a sample size too small for county breakout.

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

During the school year 1993-94, 1,545 of the 28,990 students enrolled in Grades 9–12 left public high school without graduating. The state dropout rate of 4.9% was slightly higher than the 4.2% rate experienced in the previous school year. Rates increased somewhat in each ethnic group. In 1993–94, 3.7% of White and Other, 6.8% of Black, and 6.7% of Hispanic students were dropouts.

The estimated graduation rate from ninth grade to graduation for the class of 1994 is 74.7%. This rate includes graduates with day-school diplomas, evening-school diplomas (19 years of age and under), Records of Performance, and GED (19 years of age and under). The estimate for the class of 1994 day-school graduates is only 66.5%, compared to 70.2% for the class of 1995.

According to National KIDS COUNT, Delaware has the 15th lowest percentage of school dropouts among all states. Between 1985 and 1995, there has been a 30% improvement in this indicator in Delaware compared to an 18% improvement nationally.

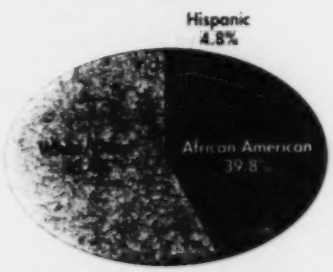
Risk factors

Children must have adequate health care, good nutrition, and developmentally appropriate environmental stimulation to prepare for their school years. Children who are not "ready for school" are less likely to succeed academically and socially and are more likely to drop out before completing high school. Although adolescent parenting causes some students to drop out, leaving school may precede some pregnancies. Low parental educational attainment or involvement with the school, negative peer pressure, substance use, poor social adjustment, and language barriers also contribute to adolescents' decisions to cut short their educational experiences.

Percentage of Dropouts
by Age, Gender, and Racial/Ethnic Group

% of all dropouts by age

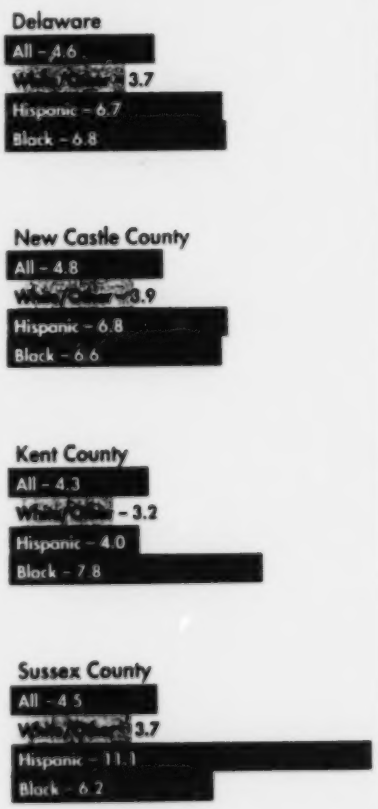
% of all dropouts by gender



% of all dropouts by racial/ethnic group

School Year 1993–1994
Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Dropout Rates
by Racial/Ethnic Group



School Year 1993–1994
Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

For more information see

Infant Deaths Per 1,000 Live Births by Education of Mother p. 23

Teens Not in School and Not in the Labor Force p. 32–33

Tables 36–44 p. 66–69

Teens Not in the Labor Force and Not in School

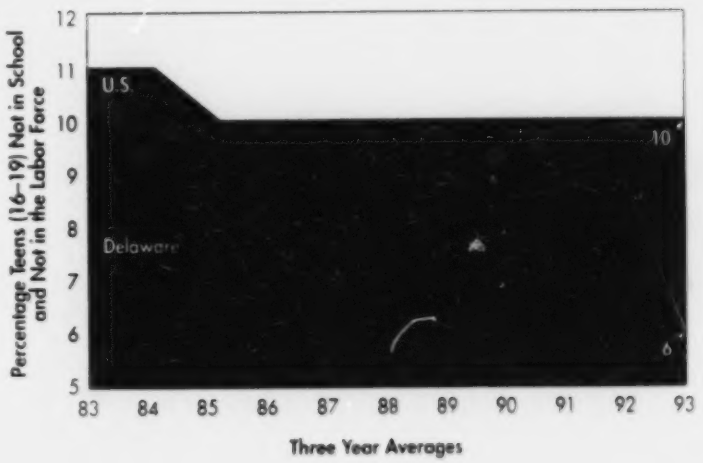
Based on National KIDS COUNT data for 1993, Delaware had the 4th lowest rate of teens 16–19 years of age who were not in school and not in the labor force. From 1985 to 1993, there has been a 25% improvement in this indicator in Delaware.

Definitions

Labor force – group of persons 16 years of age and older who are employed or unemployed and seeking employment

Teens Not in the Labor Force and Not in School

Delaware Compared to U.S.



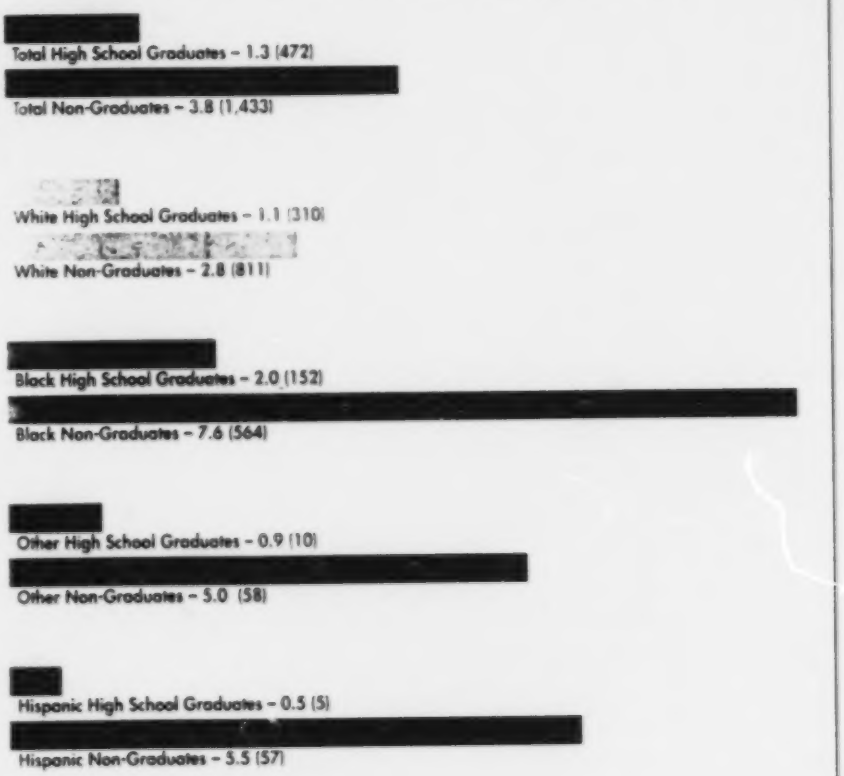
Source: National KIDS COUNT

The transition from adolescence to adulthood is often difficult for youth who have not had successful school experiences. High school graduates who are neither working nor pursuing further education during these critical years often experience recurring periods of unemployment during their adult years. Youth without a high-school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certification are even more vulnerable.

For more information see
High School Dropouts p. 30–31
Table 45 p. 70

Teens Not in the Labor Force and Not in School

Percent and Number of Teens (16–19 Yrs.), Delaware, 1990


Total High School Graduates – 1.3 (472)
Total Non-Graduates – 3.8 (1,433)
White High School Graduates – 1.1 (310)
White Non-Graduates – 2.8 (811)
Black High School Graduates – 2.0 (152)
Black Non-Graduates – 7.6 (564)
Other High School Graduates – 0.9 (10)
Other Non-Graduates – 5.0 (58)
Hispanic High School Graduates – 0.5 (5)
Hispanic Non-Graduates – 5.5 (57)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 1990 Census

Children in Poverty

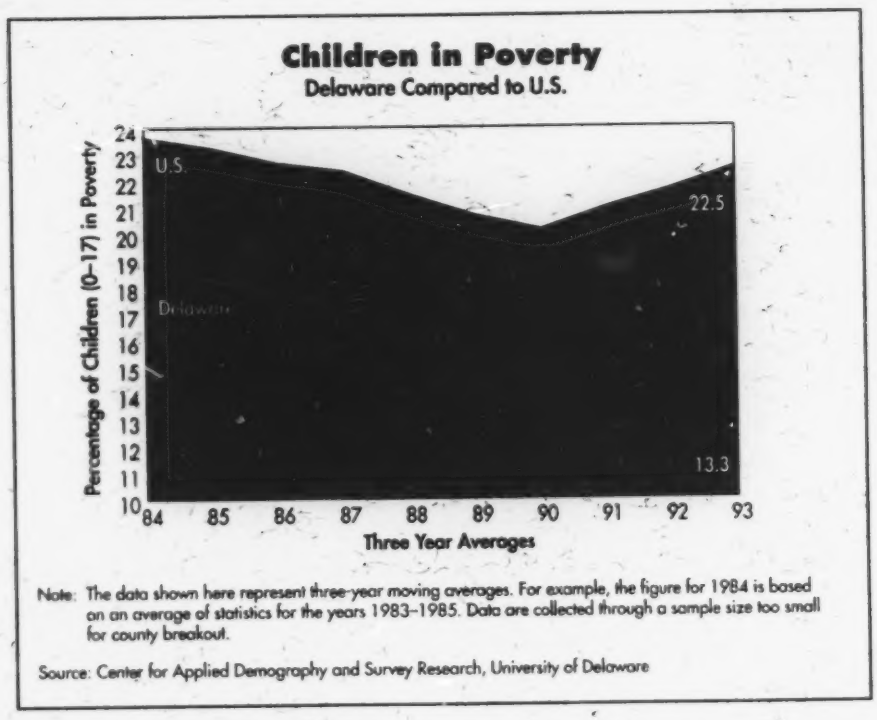
Impact:

Poverty is associated with low birth weight, infant mortality, inadequate health care, inadequate cognitive stimulation, poorer preparation for school, dropping out of school, adolescent parenting, and living in an unsafe neighborhood. Poverty is the leading risk factor for negative outcomes for children.

Definitions

Children in Poverty – percentage of children in poverty; in 1993, the poverty threshold for a one-parent, two-child family was $11,642. For a family of four with two children, the threshold was $14,664.

Percent of Poverty – 100 percent of poverty relates to the income level based on family size



Note: The data shown here represent three-year moving averages. For example, the figure for 1984 is based on an average of statistics for the years 1983–1985. Data are collected through a sample size too small for county breakout.

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

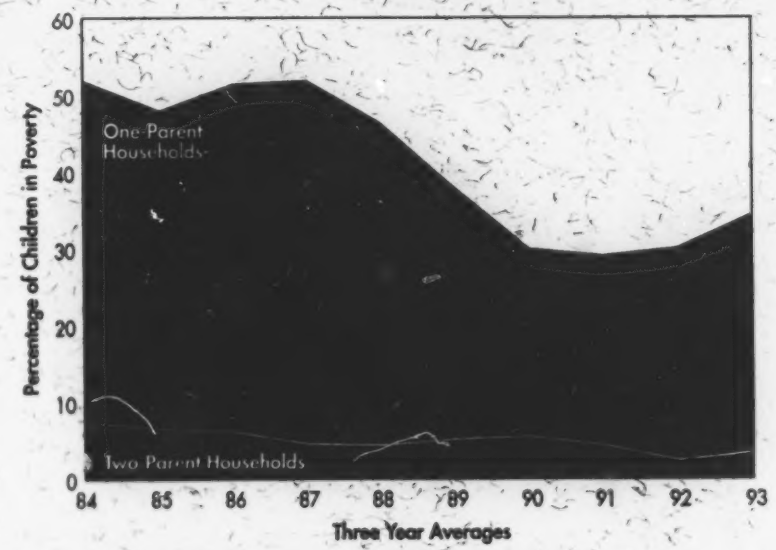
The rate of children in poverty in Delaware is low compared to the rate for the U.S. At a poverty rate of 13.3%, about 23,000 children in Delaware live in poverty. Five percent of Delaware's children live in extreme poverty; i.e., at 50% of poverty level or below.[1]

In 1993, 4.5% of children in the state lived in working-poor families. These are families in which at least one parent works 50 or more weeks per year. Across the nation, 7.6% of children lived in working-poor families. Eighty-four percent of poor families with children received means-tested assistance in 1993 in Delaware compared to 85% in the U.S.[1]

There has been a 35% improvement in the percentage of children in poverty from 1985 to 1993. Based on a five-year average from 1991–1995, 11% of Delaware's children were in poverty compared to 17% in 1985. In 1993, Delaware and New Hampshire had the lowest percentage of children living in poverty in the U.S., sharing first place rank among all states on this indicator.

Percentage of Children (0–17) in Poverty by Household Structure

Delaware



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

For more information see

Children in One-Parent Households	p. 36–37
Tables 46–55	p. 70–74
Tables 57–59	p. 75–76

In Delaware 35% of mother-headed families received child support or alimony in 1993. Nationally, 32% of mother-headed families received this additional income.[1]

The 1992-94 three-year average *median household income* was $36,849.94,[2] the ninth highest in the nation. In 1993, the *median household income of families with children* was $38,600 in Delaware compared to $35,800 nationally.[1] With a household poverty rate of 8.8%, Delaware again tied with New Hampshire for a first-place ranking.

1 KIDS COUNT Data Book 1996, National KIDS COUNT

2 Delaware Dateline, Delaware Economic Development Office

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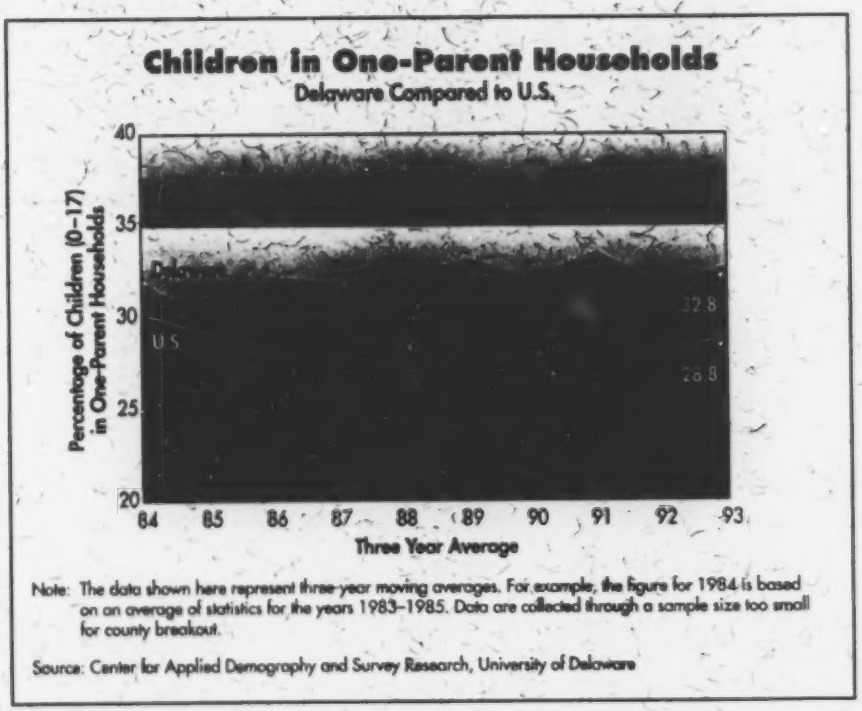
Children in One-Parent Households

Impact

Many single parents experience both personal and financial stress as they juggle demands of a job and child care. Though granted child support, many single parents receive few or no payments. Children in these families have a greater likelihood of living in poverty, dropping out of school, and becoming adolescent parents.



Note: The data shown here represent three-year moving averages. For example, the figure for 1984 is based on an average of statistics for the years 1983–1985. Data are collected through a sample size too small for county breakout.

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

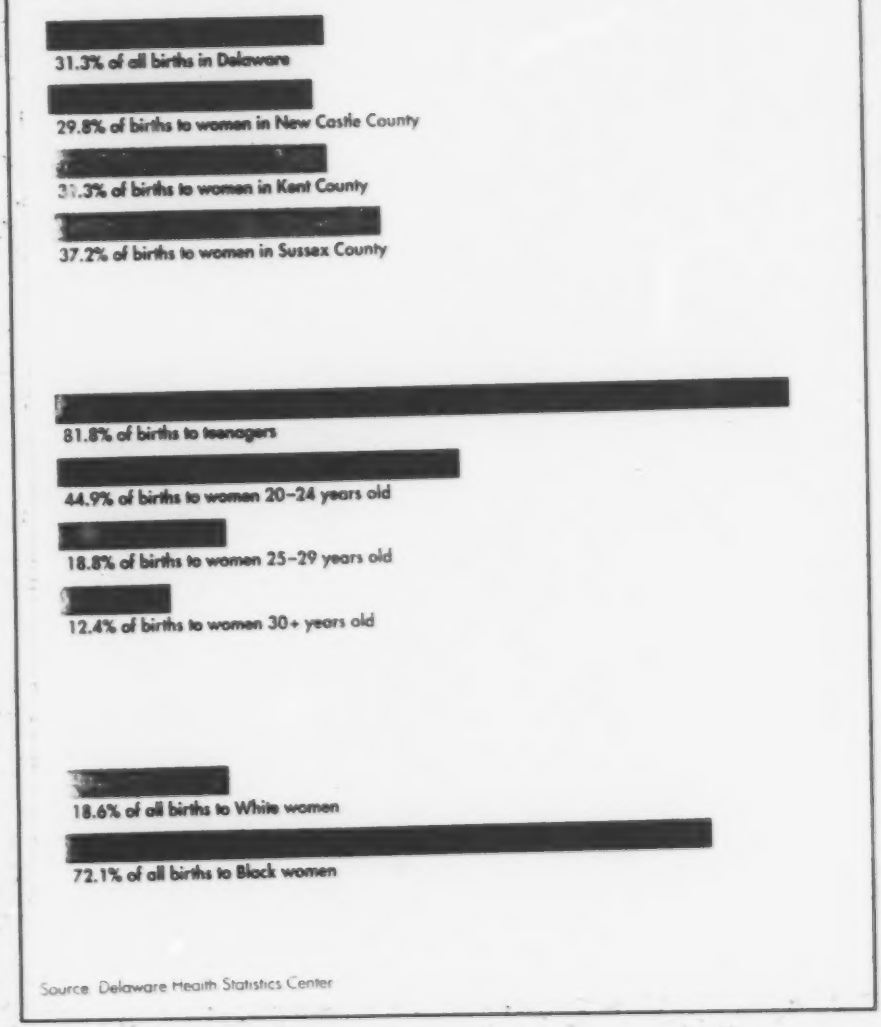
Between 1985 and 1993, there has been a 17% increase in the percentage of families with children headed by a single parent in the state. In 1993, Delaware ranked 39th among all states on this indicator. The percentage of children living in one-parent households remained fairly stable in Delaware compared to a significant drop in the U.S.

39

While the percentage of births to unmarried teen mothers is higher in New Castle County, the percentage of births to single mothers of all ages is higher in Sussex County.

Percentage of Births to Single Mothers

in Delaware by County, Age, and Race
Five-year Average 1989–93


31.3% of all births in Delaware
29.8% of births to women in New Castle County
31.3% of births to women in Kent County
37.2% of births to women in Sussex County
81.8% of births to teenagers
44.9% of births to women 20–24 years old
18.8% of births to women 25–29 years old
12.4% of births to women 30+ years old
18.6% of all births to White women
72.1% of all births to Black women

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

For more information see

Births to Teens	p.12–19
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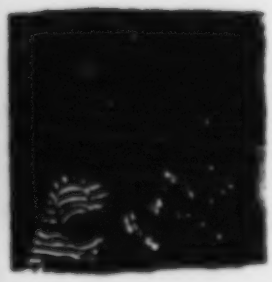

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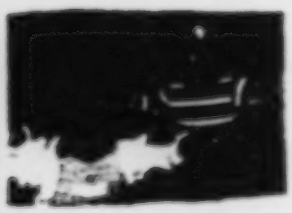

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Table 1a

Population Estimates

Population Estimates by Race and Age for Delaware and Counties, 1993

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-17	18-19	20-64	65+	Total	% 0-19	% 20-64	% 65+
Delaware	53,575	49,149	46,428	26,116	17,411	413,000	87,388	693,067	27.80	59.59	12.61
White	40,836	37,995	35,297	19,825	13,216	338,419	77,741	563,329	26.12	60.07	13.80
Black	11,648	10,084	10,302	5,807	3,872	66,747	9,083	117,543	35.49	56.79	7.73
Other	1,091	1,070	829	484	323	7,834	564	12,195	31.14	64.24	4.62
New Castle	34,872	31,676	29,827	17,081	11,387	277,531	52,848	455,222	27.42	60.97	11.61
White	26,738	24,607	22,699	13,028	8,685	227,597	46,989	370,343	25.86	61.46	12.69
Black	7,279	6,217	6,558	3,721	2,481	44,414	5,566	76,236	34.44	58.26	7.30
Other	855	852	570	332	221	5,520	293	8,643	32.74	63.87	3.39
Kent	10,085	9,401	8,365	4,673	3,115	68,611	12,594	116,844	30.50	58.72	10.78
White	7,616	7,168	6,333	3,501	2,334	54,895	10,949	92,796	29.04	59.16	11.80
Black	2,320	2,109	1,884	1,076	718	12,224	1,504	21,835	37.13	55.98	6.89
Other	149	124	148	95	64	1,492	141	2,213	26.21	67.42	6.37
Sussex	8,618	8,072	8,236	4,363	2,908	66,858	21,946	121,001	26.61	55.25	18.14
White	6,482	6,220	6,265	3,296	2,197	55,927	19,803	100,190	24.41	55.82	19.77
Black	2,049	1,758	1,860	1,010	673	10,109	2,013	19,472	37.75	51.92	10.34
Other	87	94	111	57	38	822	130	1,339	28.90	61.39	9.71

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 1b

Population Estimates

Population Estimates by Gender and Age for Delaware and Counties, 1993

		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-17	18-19
Delaware	Male	27,414	25,114	23,849	13,219	8,812
	Female	26,161	24,035	22,579	12,898	8,598
New Castle	Male	17,917	16,278	15,318	8,602	5,734
	Female	16,955	15,398	14,509	8,479	5,653
Kent	Male	5,129	4,764	4,294	2,390	1,593
	Female	4,956	4,637	4,071	2,283	1,522
Sussex	Male	4,368	4,072	4,237	2,227	1,485
	Female	4,250	4,000	3,999	2,135	1,424

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 2:

Delaware Children and their Families

Delaware Children and their Families, Delaware and Counties, 1990 Census

	Delaware		New Castle		Kent		Sussex	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total children under 18	**146,816**	**100.0**	**95,532**	**65.1**	**27,268**	**18.6**	**24,016**	**16.3**
In married-couple family:								
Under 3 years	21,188	14.4	14,099	14.8	3,929	14.4	3,160	13.2
3 and 4 years	13,924	9.5	9,081	9.5	2,717	10.0	2,126	8.9
5 years	6,931	4.7	4,388	4.6	1,275	4.7	1,268	5.3
6 to 11 years	39,580	27.0	25,831	27.0	7,117	26.1	6,632	27.6
12 and 13 years	11,944	8.1	7,713	8.1	2,307	8.5	1,924	8.0
14 years	5,764	3.9	3,645	3.8	1,136	4.2	983	4.1
15 to 17 years	16,687	11.4	10,826	11.3	3,165	11.6	2,696	11.2
Total	**116,018**	**79.0**	**75,583**	**79.1**	**21,646**	**79.4**	**18,789**	**78.2**
In other family:								
Male head of household, no spouse:								
Under 3 years	931	0.6	621	0.7	134	0.5	176	0.7
3 and 4	632	0.4	418	0.4	106	0.4	108	0.4
5 years	307	0.2	151	0.2	71	0.3	85	0.4
6 to 11 years	1,978	1.3	1,304	1.4	226	0.8	448	1.9
12 and 13 years	507	0.3	349	0.4	59	0.2	99	0.4
14 years	276	0.2	137	0.1	31	0.1	108	0.4
15 to 17 years	937	0.6	612	0.6	116	0.4	209	0.9
Total	**5,568**	**3.8**	**3,592**	**3.8**	**743**	**2.7**	**1,233**	**5.1**
Total in single-parent family		18.1						
Female head of household, no spouse:								
Under 3 years	3,052	2.1	1,893	2.0	652	2.4	507	2.1
3 and 4 years	2,744	1.9	1,612	1.7	625	2.3	507	2.1
5 years	1,444	1.0	899	0.9	320	1.2	225	0.9
6 to 11 years	9,266	6.3	6,025	6.3	1,879	6.9	1,362	5.7
12 and 13 years	3,004	2.0	2,066	2.2	456	1.7	482	2.0
14 years	1,486	1.0	932	1.0	256	0.9	298	1.2
15 to 17 years	4,234	2.9	2,930	3.1	691	2.5	613	2.6
Total	**25,230**	**17.2**	**16,357**	**17.1**	**4,879**	**17.9**	**3,994**	**16.6**
Total in single-parent family		81.9						

Source: Delaware Economic Development Office, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 3:

Number and Percent of Families with Children

Number and Percent of Families With Related Children Under 18 Years of Age
Delaware and Counties, 1990 Census

Type of Family	Delaware		New Castle		Kent		Sussex	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
One-Parent	21,708	24.3	14,252	24.3	3,807	23.6	3,649	25.0
Male Head of Household	4,083	4.6	2,627	4.5	614	3.8	842	5.8
Female Head of Household	17,625	19.7	11,625	19.8	3,193	19.8	2,807	19.2
Married Couple	67,642	75.7	44,375	75.7	12,317	76.4	10,950	75.0
Total	89,350	100.0	58,627	100.0	16,124	100.0	14,599	100.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 4:

Teen Fertility Rates

Five-Year Average Fertility Rates (births per 1,000) for Females Ages 15–19 by Race
U.S., Delaware, and Counties, 1978–1993

Area/Race	1978-1982	1979-1983	1980-1984	1981-1985	1982-1986	1983-1987	1984-1988	1985-1989	1986-1990	1987-1991	1988-1992	1989-1993
U.S	52.3	52.3	52.0	51.5	51.1	50.7	51.0	52.4	54.1	56.4	58.5	59.9
White	44.0	44.1	43.8	43.3	42.8	42.2	42.2	43.3	44.9	47.1	49.2	50.8
Black	99.1	98.1	97.0	96.5	97.0	97.9	100.1	103.2	106.2	109.5	111.8	112.1
Delaware	50.1	50.3	49.2	48.6	48.6	48.5	48.7	50.5	52.0	54.0	55.4	56.8
White	34.9	35.2	34.7	34.0	33.8	33.5	33.8	34.9	35.8	36.7	37.6	38.9
Black	116.4	115.0	110.8	110.3	110.0	110.3	109.0	114.3	116.7	121.2	122.6	122.6
New Castle	42.0	42.0	41.6	40.7	40.7	41.0	41.5	43.1	44.5	46.2	47.8	49.0
White	27.8	27.9	27.9	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.6	28.0	28.6	29.2	30.3	31.4
Black	113.9	112.2	108.2	106.7	106.0	106.8	105.9	112.3	116.3	120.5	122.5	120.7
Kent	61.9	62.0	60.2	61.1	61.0	60.0	58.1	61.3	62.2	64.0	64.2	66.3
White	52.0	53.7	54.2	55.7	55.4	53.6	50.9	52.6	52.2	52.7	52.9	54.2
Black	96.0	91.2	81.1	80.5	80.7	82.0	81.5	88.6	92.3	96.9	95.2	100.2
Sussex	75.5	75.9	72.9	71.7	71.1	70.3	71.4	73.9	74.6	78.4	79.7	80.4
White	53.0	52.3	47.1	44.6	43.3	43.1	45.5	49.1	51.6	55.0	55.4	56.3
Black	146.0	150.2	152.7	157.0	159.0	157.5	155.0	155.8	151.3	156.7	159.2	158.2

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 5:

Pre-Teen and Young Teen Fertility Rates

Five-Year Average Fertility Rates (births per 1,000) for Females Ages 10–14 by Race U.S., Delaware, and Counties, 1978–1993

Area/Race	1978-1982	1979-1983	1980-1984	1981-1985	1982-1986	1983-1987	1984-1988	1985-1989	1986-1990	1987-1991	1988-1992	1989-1993
U.S.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
White	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Black	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8
Delaware	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1
White	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Black	5.5	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.7	6.6
New Castle	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.0
White	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
Black	4.9	5.5	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.2	5.6	6.0	6.6	6.4	6.4
Kent	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9
White	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0
Black	6.6	6.6	5.7	5.1	4.7	5.0	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.9	5.4	5.3
Sussex	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6
White	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8
Black	6.5	5.5	5.6	6.8	6.6	6.0	6.5	7.7	7.9	7.4	8.1	8.4

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 6:

Births to Single Teen Mothers

Five Year Average Percentage of Births to Single Mothers Under 20 Years of Age U.S., Delaware, Counties, 1981–1993

Area/Race	1981-1985	1982-1986	1983-1987	1984-1988	1985-1989	1986-1990	1987-1991	1988-1992	1989-1993
U.S.	53.9	56.3	58.9	61.3	63.5	65.3	66.9	68.1	69.3
White	39.6	42.3	45.2	48.2	51.0	53.4	55.5	57.3	59.0
Black	88.4	89.2	90.0	90.5	91.1	91.5	91.9	92.3	92.6
Delaware	65.5	66.7	69.0	70.5	73.1	74.7	76.7	79.4	81.8
White	43.9	46.2	49.7	53.0	56.2	58.6	61.2	65.2	69.3
Black	91.0	90.7	90.9	90.9	92.3	92.9	94.0	94.9	95.7
New Castle	71.6	72.3	74.3	74.9	77.8	79.4	81.4	84.1	86.4
White	52.9	54.5	57.4	59.1	62.6	65.3	68.2	72.3	76.5
Black	92.5	92.0	92.7	92.6	93.9	94.1	94.8	95.7	96.4
Kent	51.2	52.9	56.1	59.7	62.3	65.3	67.7	71.0	75.1
White	34.3	36.3	39.8	44.1	46.4	49.2	50.9	56.1	61.6
Black	84.7	85.2	85.9	86.6	88.1	90.4	92.6	94.0	95.7
Sussex	63.2	65.6	67.1	69.0	71.1	70.9	72.8	74.5	76.0
White	29.7	34.4	39.5	46.0	50.3	51.2	54.5	56.7	59.3
Black	91.3	91.0	90.0	89.4	72.9	91.3	92.6	93.1	93.7

Sources: National Center of Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 7:

Births by Race and Age of Mother

Number and Percent of Live Births by Race and Age of Mother Delaware, Counties and City of Wilmington, 1993

Area/Race	Total Births to All Ages		Births to Teen Mothers Less than 15 years old		Births to Teen Mothers 15–17 years old		Births to Teen Mothers 18–19 years old	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Delaware	10,550	100.0	43	0.4	495	4.7	779	7.4
White	7,911	100.0	15	0.2	247	3.1	447	5.7
Black	2,408	100.0	28	1.2	244	10.1	323	13.4
Other	231	100.0	0	0.0	4	1.7	9	3.9
New Castle	6,889	100.0	25	0.4	291	4.2	423	6.1
White	5,226	100.0	8	0.2	142	2.7	239	4.6
Black	1,513	100.0	17	1.1	147	9.7	181	12.0
Other	150	100.0	0	0.0	2	1.3	3	2.0
Wilmington	1,293	100.0	14	1.1	149	11.5	156	12.1
White	497	100.0	2	0.4	46	9.3	42	8.5
Black	781	100.0	12	1.5	102	13.1	114	14.6
Other	15	100.0	0	0.0	1	6.7	0	0.0
Balance of NC County	5,596	100.0	11	0.2	142	2.5	267	4.8
White	4,729	100.0	6	0.1	96	2.0	197	4.2
Black	732	100.0	5	0.7	45	6.1	67	9.2
Other	135	100.0	0	0.0	1	0.7	3	2.2
Kent	1,930	100.0	7	0.4	97	5.0	165	8.5
White	1,438	100.0	3	0.2	62	4.3	94	6.5
Black	436	100.0	4	0.9	34	7.8	66	15.1
Other	56	100.0	0	0.0	1	1.8	5	8.9
Sussex	1,731	100.0	11	0.6	107	6.2	191	11.0
White	1,247	100.0	4	0.3	43	3.4	114	9.1
Black	459	100.0	7	1.5	63	13.7	76	16.6
Other	25	100.0	0	0.0	1	4.0	1	4.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

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Table 8:

Births by Birth Order and Age of Mother

Percentage of Live Births by Live Birth Order and Age of Mother
Delaware, Counties, and City of Wilmington, 1993

Area	Birth Order	Age: Under 18	18 - 19
Delaware	First	87.7	69.1
	Second	11.7	22.8
	Third	0.6	6.9
	Fourth+	0.0	1.2
New Castle	First	86.7	70.2
	Second	12.7	22.5
	Third	0.6	6.4
	Fourth+	0.0	0.9
Wilmington	First	79.8	60.3
	Second	19.0	29.5
	Third	1.2	9.6
	Fourth+	0.0	0.6
Balance of NC County	First	94.1	76.0
	Second	5.9	18.4
	Third	0.0	4.5
	Fourth+	0.0	1.1
Kent	First	88.5	67.3
	Second	10.6	23.6
	Third	1.0	7.9
	Fourth+	0.0	1.2
Sussex	First	89.8	68.1
	Second	10.2	23.0
	Third	0.0	7.3
	Fourth+	0.0	1.6

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 9:

Percentage of Low Birth Weight Births

Five-Year Average Percentage of Low Birth Weight Births
U.S. and Delaware, 1981–1993

	1981-1985	1982-1986	1983-1987	1984-1988	1985-1989	1986-1990	1987-1991	1988-1992	1989-1993
U.S.	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1
Delaware	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.7

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 10:

Percentage of Very Low Birth Weight Births

Five-Year Average Percentage of Very Low Birth Weight Births by Age and Race of Mother
Delaware and Counties, 1989–1993

Area/Age	All Races	White	African-American
Delaware	1.6	1.0	3.5
Less than 20	2.4	1.7	3.2
20-24	1.7	0.9	3.5
25-29	1.3	0.9	3.2
30+	1.6	1.2	4.4
New Castle	1.8	1.1	4.0
Less than 20	2.8	2.0	3.6
20-24	1.9	0.9	3.9
25-29	1.4	0.9	3.6
30+	1.7	1.2	5.0
Kent	1.4	1.0	2.9
Less than 20	2.1	1.7	2.8
20-24	1.4	0.7	3.3
25-29	0.9	0.8	1.4
30+	1.8	1.4	4.2
Sussex	1.3	0.9	2.4
Less than 20	2.0	0.8	2.3
20-24	1.5	1.0	2.5
25-29	1.0	0.9	3.0
30+	0.9	0.9	1.6

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 11:

Low Birth Weight Births by Age & Race of Mother

Five-Year Average Percentage of Low Birth Weight Births by Age and Race of Mother
Delaware and Counties, 1989–1993

Area/Age	All Races	White	Black
Delaware	7.7	5.8	13.7
Less than 20	10.5	8.2	13.1
20-24	7.9	5.5	13.1
25-29	6.5	5.0	13.0
30+	7.7	6.2	16.8
New Castle	8.0	5.9	14.8
Less than 20	11.3	8.8	13.9
20-24	8.6	5.8	14.0
25-29	6.7	5.0	14.2
30+	7.7	6.1	18.2
Kent	7.2	5.8	11.5
Less than 20	9.4	7.5	12.0
20-24	6.9	5.3	11.1
25-29	5.6	4.9	8.7
30+	8.4	6.9	15.5
Sussex	7.2	5.4	12.2
Less than 20	9.3	7.2	11.8
20-24	7.1	4.6	12.1
25-29	6.4	4.9	13.2
30+	6.7	6.0	11.5

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 12:

Births by Birth Weight and Adequacy of Prenatal Care

Number and Percent of Live Births by Birth Weight in Grams and Adequacy of Prenatal Care Delaware, 1989–1993

Birth Weight	Adequate Number	Adequate Percent	Intermediate Number	Intermediate Percent	Inadequate Number	Inadequate Percent	Unknown Number	Unknown Percent
Delaware	39,061	72.1	10,975	20.2	3,444	6.4	722	1.3
over 2500g	36,562	73.2	9,901	19.8	2,925	5.9	591	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	2,486	59.4	1,068	25.5	519	12.4	109	2.6
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	508	57.7	199	22.6	132	15.0	41	4.7

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 13:

Births by Birth Weight, Race of Mother and Adequacy of Prenatal Care

Number and Percent of Live Births by Race of Mother, Birth Weight in Grams and Adequacy of Prenatal Care, Delaware, 1989–1993

Birth Weight	Adequate Number	Adequate Percent	Intermediate Number	Intermediate Percent	Inadequate Number	Inadequate Percent	Unknown Number	Unknown Percent
White	31,521	78.3	6,705	16.7	1,522	3.8	502	1.2
over 2500g	29,902	78.9	6,175	16.3	1,385	3.7	422	1.1
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	1,609	68.9	527	22.6	137	5.9	63	2.7
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	276	65.6	93	22.1	33	7.8	19	4.5
Black	6,782	52.5	4074	31.5	1,855	14.4	207	1.6
over 2500g	5,948	53.4	3,549	31.9	1,480	13.3	157	1.4
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	831	46.8	522	29.4	375	21.1	46	2.6
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	229	50.6	105	23.2	97	21.4	22	4.9
Other	758	73.3	196	19.0	67	6.5	13	1.3
over 2500g	712	74.1	177	18.4	60	6.2	12	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	46	63.9	19	26.4	7	9.7	0	0.0
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	3	50.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	0	0.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 14:

Births by Birth Weight, Age of Mother and Adequacy of Prenatal Care

Number and Percent of Live Births by Age of Mother, Birth Weight in Grams and Adequacy of Prenatal Care, Delaware, 1989–1993

Birth Weight	Adequate		Intermediate		Inadequate		Unknown	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less Than 20 Years	3,207	47.8	2,445	36.5	959	14.3	93	1.4
over 2500g	2,900	48.3	2,203	36.7	825	13.8	70	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	307	43.6	241	34.2	134	19.0	22	3.1
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	72	44.7	45	28.0	37	23.0	7	4.3
20 to 24 Years	8,843	64.4	3,486	25.4	1,218	8.9	190	1.4
over 2500g	8,259	65.4	3,168	25.1	1,051	8.3	157	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	577	53.0	315	29.0	167	15.3	29	2.7
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	121	51.7	59	25.2	40	17.1	14	6.0
25 to 29 Years	13,405	78.6	2,730	16.0	691	4.0	236	1.4
over 2500g	12,684	79.6	2,478	15.5	584	3.7	195	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	719	64.9	251	22.7	107	9.7	31	2.8
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	138	63.9	39	18.1	24	11.1	15	6.9
30 to 34 Years	9,939	81.6	1,701	14.0	404	3.3	143	1.2
over 2500g	9,308	82.6	1,515	13.4	322	2.9	119	1.1
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	629	68.4	186	20.2	82	8.9	22	2.4
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	122	64.2	40	21.1	23	12.1	5	2.6
35+ Years	3,667	81.3	613	13.6	172	3.8	60	1.3
over 2500g	3,411	82.4	537	13.0	143	3.5	50	1.2
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	254	70.0	75	20.7	29	8.0	5	1.4
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	55	69.6	16	20.3	8	10.1	0	0.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 15:

Births by Birth Weight, Marital Status and Adequacy of Prenatal Care

Number and Percent of Live Births by Marital Status, Birth Weight in Grams and Adequacy of Prenatal Care, Delaware, 1989–1993

Birth Weight	Adequate		Intermediate		Inadequate		Unknown	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Married	30,427	81.7	5,385	14.5	984	2.6	459	1.2
over 2500g	28,841	82.2	4,958	14.1	889	2.5	388	1.1
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	1,576	73.2	425	19.7	95	4.4	56	2.6
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	281	68.7	74	18.1	32	7.8	22	5.4
Single	8,634	50.9	5,590	33.0	2,460	14.5	263	1.6
over 2500g	7,721	51.8	4943	33.2	2,036	13.7	203	1.4
less than 2500g (low birth weight)	910	44.8	643	31.7	424	20.9	53	2.6
less than 1500g (very low birth weight)	227	48.2	125	26.5	100	21.2	19.0	4.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 16:

U.S. Infant Mortality Rates

Ranking of Five-Year Average Infant Mortality Rates U.S., 50 States and District of Columbia, 1989–1993

State	All Races Rate	All Races Rank	White Rate	White Rank	Black Rate	Black Rank
United States	9.0		7.3		17.5	
Alabama	11.0	47	8.2	43*	16.4	20*
Alaska**	9.1	29*	7.2	17*	13.6	8
Arizona	8.5	22*	7.8	34*	20.3	43
Arkansas	10.0	40*	8.5	47*	15.2	12*
California	7.6	10	6.9	11	17.1	24*
Colorado	8.3	20*	7.8	34*	17.1	24*
Connecticut	7.8	12*	6.4	3*	17.1	24*
Delaware	**10.2**	**42**	**7.6**	**28***	**19.2**	**38**
District of Columbia	20.4	51	10.8	51	23.9	50
Florida	9.2	31	7.1	13*	16.0	16*
Georgia	11.4	49	8.0	41*	17.5	29
Hawaii	7.2	7	4.3	1	15.5	14*
Idaho**	8.6	24*	8.5	47*	27.8	51
Illinois	10.6	44*	7.8	34*	20.9	45
Indiana	9.5	35	8.4	45*	19.0	37
Iowa	7.9	14	7.5	23*	19.9	41
Kansas	8.7	26*	7.7	31*	19.8	39*
Kentucky	8.6	24*	8.0	41*	15.0	9*
Louisiana	10.7	46	7.6	28*	15.1	11
Maine**	6.6	1*	6.5	5	7.6	3
Maryland	9.7	38*	6.8	10	16.4	20*
Massachusetts	6.8	6	6.2	2	13.1	6
Michigan	10.4	43	7.5	23*	21.4	46
Minnesota	7.3	8	6.6	6*	19.8	39*
Mississippi	11.7	50	8.2	43*	15.5	14*
Missouri	9.3	32*	7.6	28*	17.6	30*
Montana**	8.5	22*	7.5	23*	23.5	49
Nebraska	8.1	17*	7.2	17*	20.2	42
Nevada	7.8	12*	7.1	13*	17.1	24*
New Hampshire**	6.6	1*	6.6	6*	13.2	7
New Jersey	8.7	26*	6.4	3*	18.4	35*
New Mexico	8.3	20*	7.7	31*	22.5	48
New York	9.4	34	7.4	21*	17.2	28
North Carolina	10.6	44*	7.9	39*	17.0	23
North Dakota**	8.0	15*	7.5	23*	12.6	5
Ohio	9.6	36*	7.9	39*	18.4	35*
Oklahoma	9.0	28	8.4	45*	15.8	16*
Oregon	7.7	11	7.4	21*	22.0	47
Pennsylvania	9.3	32*	7.3	19*	20.6	44
Rhode Island	8.2	19	7.8	34*	15.2	12*
South Carolina	11.3	48	7.8	34*	16.9	22
South Dakota**	9.6	36*	7.7	31*	11.3	4
Tennessee	10.0	40*	7.5	23*	18.1	34
Texas	8.0	15*	7.0	12	15.0	9*
Utah**	6.7	5	6.6	6*	17.6	30*
Vermont**	6.6	1*	6.7	9	7.1	2
Virginia	9.7	38*	7.1	13*	17.8	32
Washington	7.5	9	7.1	13*	18.0	33
West Virginia	9.1	29*	8.8	50	16.0	16*
Wisconsin	8.1	17*	7.3	19*	15.9	19
Wyoming**	8.6	24*	8.5	47*	6.0	1

* Indicates a tied rank

** Rate and rank of the Black population should be interpreted with caution since the rate is based on less than 50 infant deaths

Infant mortality rates represent the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center, National Center for Health Statistics

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Table 17:

Infant, Neonatal and Postneonatal Mortality Rates

Infant Mortality Rates, Neonatal and Postneonatal Mortality Rates U.S. and Delaware, 1989–1993

Area	Infant	Neonatal	Postneonatal
U.S.			
All Races	9.0	5.7	3.3
White	7.3	4.6	2.7
Black	17.5	11.3	6.3
Delaware			
All Races	10.4	7.2	3.1
White	7.5	5.5	2.0
Black	19.9	13.2	6.7

Neonatal – the period from birth to 27 days **Post-neonatal** – the period **Infant** – the period from birth to one year **Infant Mortality Rate** – calculated in deaths per 1,000 delivered
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

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Table 18:

Infant Mortality Rates by Race

Five-Year Average Infant Mortality Rates by Race
U.S., Delaware, Counties and City of Wilmington, 1978–1993

Area/Race	1978-1982	1979-1983	1980-1984	1981-1985	1982-1986	1983-1987	1984-1988	1985-1989	1986-1990	1987-1991	1988-1992	1989-1993
U.S.	12.6	12.0	11.6	11.2	10.9	10.6	10.4	10.2	9.9	9.6	9.3	9.0
White	11.0	10.5	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.2	9.0	8.7	8.3	8.0	7.7	7.3
Black	21.2	20.3	19.7	19.1	18.7	18.3	18.0	18.1	18.0	17.9	17.7	17.5
Delaware	14.3	13.6	12.4	12.6	12.2	11.8	12.1	12.3	11.3	11.5	10.9	10.4
White	10.8	10.3	9.4	9.7	9.7	9.3	9.6	9.9	8.9	8.9	8.2	7.5
Black	25.9	24.6	22.5	22.1	20.7	19.9	20.6	20.7	19.6	20.0	19.8	19.9
New Castle	14.4	14.2	12.9	13.5	13.1	12.6	12.4	12.5	11.2	11.3	10.8	10.7
White	10.7	10.7	9.5	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.5	9.6	8.4	8.6	7.9	7.5
Black	27.6	26.7	25.1	25.2	23.9	23.4	23.2	23.1	21.1	20.8	20.8	21.7
Wilmington	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.9	20.4	19.6	19.5
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.2	14.1	12.3	11.2
Black	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.8	24.2	23.8	24.3
Balance NC County	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.6	9.0	8.6	8.5
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.6	8.1	7.4	7.1
Black	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.3	16.4	17.1	18.5
Kent	12.2	11.0	10.0	10.5	9.8	9.7	11.3	11.1	11.2	11.3	11.3	9.7
White	10.3	9.2	8.9	9.1	8.7	9.3	10.5	9.9	9.4	9.0	8.8	7.3
Black	19.0	17.1	14.1	14.9	13.5	11.3	14.4	15.6	17.7	19.0	19.9	17.9
Sussex	16.4	14.6	13.3	11.8	11.6	11.0	11.8	12.8	12.2	12.2	10.7	9.7
White	11.8	10.0	9.3	8.4	9.0	8.2	9.1	10.8	10.5	10.1	8.8	7.8
Black	27.4	25.5	22.7	20.0	17.9	17.8	18.5	18.0	16.8	18.0	16.1	15.3

Sources: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center
Notes: Rates are deaths per 1,000 live births

Table 19:

Infant Mortality Rates by Risk Factor

Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births by Risk Factor, Live Birth Cohort
Delaware, 1989–1993

Risk Factor	All Races	White	Black
Birth weight			
< 1500 grams	365.5	360.2	368.7
< 2500 grams	94.4	82.6	111.0
2500+ grams	2.8	2.3	4.7
Age			
< 20	14.2	9.5	19.5
20-24	12.2	7.2	23.0
25-29	9.1	7.3	17.4
30+	8.4	6.9	18.3
Marital Status			
Married	7.5	6.4	17.8
Single	16.5	11.5	20.8
Education			
< 12 years	13.3	8.5	20.2
High School diploma	11.3	8.4	19.6
1+ years of college	7.2	5.5	18.1

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 20:

Infant Deaths by Race of Mother and Adequacy of Prenatal Care

Infant Mortality Rates by Race of Mother and Adequacy of Prenatal Care
Delaware, 1989–1993

	Adequate	Intermediate	Inadequate
Delaware	8.3	12.0	20.9
White	6.1	9.8	13.8
Black	18.9	16.0	27.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 21:

Infant Deaths by Causes of Death and Race of Mother

Number and Percent of Infant Deaths by Selected Leading Causes of Death by Race of Mother
Live Birth Cohort (all birth weights)
Delaware, 1989–1993

Cause of Death	All Races		White		Black		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Causes	558	100.0	294	100.0	258	100.0	6	100.0
Birth Defects	110	19.7	83	28.2	25	9.7	2	33.3
Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period	295	52.9	138	46.9	153	59.3	4	66.7
Disorders relating to short gestation and unspecified low birth weight (included in figures above)	132	23.7	54	18.4	76	29.5	2	33.3
Symptoms, Signs, and Ill-defined Conditions (Includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)	72	12.9	41	13.9	31	12.0	0	0.0
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	18	3.2	5	1.7	13	5.0	0	0.0
Unintentional Injuries	14	2.5	4	1.4	10	3.9	0	0.0
Homicide	4	0.7	1	0.3	3	1.2	0	0.0
Diseases of the Respiratory System (Includes Pneumonia and Influenza)	11	2.0	2	0.7	9	3.5	0	0.0
All Other Causes	34	6.1	20	6.8	14	5.4	0	0.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center
Percentages are based upon the total number of infant deaths in each race group. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
Live Birth Cohort - All persons born during a given period of time.

Table 22:

Causes of Deaths of Children by Age

Five Leading Causes of Deaths of Children 1–19 Years Old, by Age
Delaware, 1989–1993

Age	Cause of Death	Deaths	
		Number	Percent
1-4 Years	Unintentional Injuries	35	35.7
	Homicide	13	13.3
	Birth Defects	11	11.2
	Cancer	8	8.2
	Heart Diseases	4	4.1
	All Other Causes	27	27.6
	Total	98	100.0
5-14 Years	Unintentional Injuries	43	43.4
	Cancer	13	13.1
	Homicide	6	6.1
	Heart Diseases	4	4.0
	Suicide	4	4.0
	All Other Causes	29	29.3
	Total	99	100.0
15-19 Years	Unintentional Injuries	70	53.0
	Suicide	16	12.1
	Homicide	14	10.6
	Cancer	12	9.1
	Birth Defects	4	3.0
	Heart Diseases	3	2.3
	All Other Causes	13	9.9
	Total	132	100.0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 23:

Violent Deaths of Children by Causes and Age

Number of Deaths by Age for Selected Leading Causes of Deaths Delaware, Counties, and City of Wilmington, 1993

Area	Cause of Death	Age of Decedent			
		1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Delaware	Unintentional Injuries	9	4	6	14
	Motor Vehicle crashes	2	1	6	11
	all other	7	3	0	3
	Suicide	0	0	0	3
	Homicide	0	0	0	3
New Castle	Unintentional Injuries	3	1	4	7
	Motor Vehicle crashes	1	1	4	6
	all other	2	0	0	1
	Suicide	0	0	0	2
	Homicide	0	0	0	3
Wilmington	Unintentional Injuries	0	0	0	0
	Motor Vehicle crashes	0	0	0	0
	all other	0	0	0	0
	Suicide	0	0	0	1
	Homicide	0	0	0	1
Kent	Unintentional Injuries	4	1	1	2
	Motor Vehicle crashes	1	0	1	2
	all other	3	1	0	0
	Suicide	0	0	0	1
	Homicide	0	0	0	0
Sussex	Unintentional Injuries	2	2	1	5
	Motor Vehicle crashes	0	0	1	3
	all other	2	2	0	2
	Suicide	0	0	0	0
	Homicide	0	0	0	0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 24:

Causes of Violent Deaths of Children 1–14 by Race and Gender

Number of Deaths for Selected Leading Causes of Deaths of Children 1–14 Years of Age by Race and by Gender, Delaware, 1993

	Cause of Death	All Races		White		Black	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Delaware	Unintentional Injuries	14	5	10	1	4	4
	– motor vehicle crashes	7	2	4	1	3	1
	– all other	7	3	6	0	1	3
	Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 25:

Causes of Violent Deaths of Children 15–19 by Race and Gender

Number of Deaths for Selected Leading Causes of Deaths of Children 15–19 Years of Age by Race and by Gender, Delaware, 1993

	Cause of Death	All Races		White		Black	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Delaware	Unintentional Injuries	8	6	6	5	2	1
	– motor vehicle crashes	6	5	5	5	1	0
	– all other	2	1	1	0	1	1
	Suicide	1	2	1	2	0	0
	Homicide	2	1	1	1	1	0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 26:

Violent Deaths of Children by Causes of Deaths, Age, Race and Gender

Number of Deaths for Selected Leading Causes of Deaths by Age, by Race and by Gender Delaware, 1993

Cause of Death	Race	Gender	Age of Decedent 1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Unintentional Injuries (Includes motor vehicle crashes)	Delaware- All Races	Male	6	3	5	8
		Female	3	1	1	6
	White	Male	4	3	3	6
		Female	0	1	0	5
	Black	Male	2	0	2	2
		Female	3	0	1	1
Motor Vehicle Crashes	Delaware - All Races	Male	2	0	5	6
		Female	0	1	1	5
	White	Male	1	0	3	5
		Female	0	1	0	5
	Black	Male	1	0	2	1
		Female	1	0	0	0
Suicide	Delaware - All Races	Male	0	0	0	1
		Female	0	0	0	2
	White	Male	0	0	0	1
		Female	0	0	0	2
	Black	Male	0	0	0	0
		Female	0	0	0	0
Homicide	Delaware - All Races	Male	0	0	0	2
		Female	0	0	0	1
	White	Male	0	0	0	1
		Female	0	0	0	1
	Black	Male	0	0	0	1
		Female	0	0	0	0

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

Table 27:

Violent Death Rates of Children by Age

Five-Year Average Age-Specific Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Population U.S., Delaware, and Counties, 1989–1993

Cause of Death	Area	Age of Decedent 0-4	5-14	15-24
Unintentional Injuries (includes motor vehicle crashes)	U.S.	18.5	10.2	41.5
	Delaware	19.5	9.3	37.7
	New Castle	13.2	7.4	30.0
	Kent	29.0	9.5	44.6
	Sussex	34.2	16.6	66.4
Motor Vehicle Crashes	U.S.	5.8	5.7	31.7
	Delaware	4.3	6.7	30.6
	New Castle	1.2	5.4	24.3
	Kent	12.4	8.3	35.5
	Sussex	7.3	10.2	54.9
Suicide	U.S.	0	0.8	13.1
	Delaware	0	0.9	9.5
	New Castle	0	0.7	9.8
	Kent	0	1.2	8.0
	Sussex	0	1.3	10.1
Homicide	U.S.	4.0	1.6	20.8
	Delaware	6.6	1.3	7.7
	New Castle	6.6	0.7	7.7
	Kent	6.2	1.2	6.9
	Sussex	7.3	3.8	8.7

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

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Table 28:

Violent Juvenile Arrests

Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests, Delaware and Counties, 1986–1993

Area	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Delaware	208	187	191	214	374	394	537	525
New Castle	149	124	139	133	251	254	317	328
Kent	26	33	24	38	54	70	107	100
Sussex	33	30	28	43	69	70	113	97

Source: Statistical Analysis Center, State Bureau of Investigation

Table 29:

Juvenile Part I Violent Crime Arrests

Arrest of Children under 18 Years of Age by Type of Crime, Delaware, 1986–1993

Crime Type	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Part 1 Violent	208	187	191	214	374	394	537	525
Murder, Nonneg. Manslaughter	3	2	2	4	5	5	3	2
Manslaughter by Negligence	2	0	3	1	0	1	2	3
Forcible Rape	29	35	39	33	49	50	57	70
Robbery	93	62	51	28	105	88	133	121
Aggravated Assault	81	88	96	148	215	250	342	329

Source: Statistical Analysis Center, State Bureau of Investigation

Table 30:

Juvenile Part I Property Crime Arrests

Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes*, Delaware and County, 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Delaware	1,961	1,964	2,307	2,159
New Castle County	1,231	1,233	1,443	1,372
Kent County	440	452	528	374
Sussex County	290	279	336	413

* Part I Property Crimes: Burglary – Breaking or Entering; Larceny – Theft (Except MV Theft); Motor Vehicle Theft; Arson
Source: 1994 Crime in Delaware Report

Table 31:

Juvenile Part II Crime Arrests

Juvenile Arrests for Part II Crimes*, Delaware and County, 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Delaware	3,955	4,018	3,795	4,005
New Castle County	2,556	2,649	2,260	2,363
Kent County	658	631	695	740
Sussex County	741	738	840	902

* Part II Offenses: Drug Abuse Violations (Sales/Manufacturing and Possession); Other Assaults; Fraud; Stolen Property (Buying, Receiving, Possessing, etc.); Sex Offenses (except Rape and Prostitution); Liquor Laws; Disorderly Conduct; All Other Offenses (except Traffic); Curfew and Loitering Law Violations

Source: 1994 Crime in Delaware Report

Table 32:

Juvenile Drug Arrests

Arrest of Children under 18 Years of Age by Type of Crime, Delaware, 1986–1993

Crime Type	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Drug Offenses	137	135	163	296	277	374	295	316
Drug Sales, Manufacturing	8	12	25	55	72	101	65	63
Opium, Cocaine & Derivatives	4	9	21	46	66	90	60	53
Marijuana	4	3	4	6	6	9	5	10
Synthetic/Manufactured Narcotics	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Non-Narcotics	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0
Drug Possession	129	123	138	241	205	273	230	253
Opium, Cocaine & Derivatives	8	8	53	121	132	205	145	104
Marijuana	119	114	83	116	73	63	74	104
Synthetic/Manufactured Narcotics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Non-Narcotics	2	1	2	4	0	5	11	1

Source: Statistical Analysis Center, State Bureau of Investigation

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Table 33:

Student Violence and Possession

Reports of Student Violence and Possession (HB 85* and SBE**) by County, School Year 1993–1994

Type of Incident	New Castle County	Kent County	Sussex County	Delaware
Assault against pupil	461	159	101	721
Extortion against pupil	17	3	4	24
Total reports against pupils	**478**	**162**	**105**	**745**
Assault against employee	88	27	34	149
Extortion against employee	0	0	0	0
Offensive touching against employee	263	57	98	418
Terroristic threatening against employee	144	54	43	241
Total reports against employees	**495**	**138**	**175**	**808**
Possession of instrument/weapon	237	42	73	352
Possession of controlled substance	77	37	41	155
Total reports of possession	**314**	**79**	**114**	**507**
Total HB 85 reports filed	**1,287**	**379**	**394**	**2,060**
SBE reports filed	95	59	57	211
Total reports filed	**1,382**	**438**	**451**	**2,271**

* **House Bill 85:** Signed in July 1993. Requires that evidence of certain incidents of student conduct that occurs in Delaware schools be reported to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the Youth Division of the Delaware State Police.

** **SBE Reports:** Expands the reporting requirements of HB 85 to include evidence of other incidents involving school children.

Source: State of Delaware, Department of Public Instruction

Table 34:

Student Violence by Age

Student Violence Data (HB 85*) by Number and Age of Perpetrators, School Year 1993–1994

	Ages 4–6	Ages 7–9	Ages 10–12	Ages 13–15	Ages 16–20
Pupils	50	222	503	876	413
Percent	2%	11%	24%	43%	20%

* **House Bill 85:** Signed in July 1993. Requires that evidence of certain incidents of student conduct that occurs in Delaware schools be reported to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the Youth Division of the Delaware State Police.

Source: State of Delaware, Department of Public Instruction

Table 35:

Student Violence by Gender and Ethnicity

Student Violence Data (HB 85*) by Gender and Ethnicity of Perpetrators, School Year 1993–1994

Ethnicity of Perpetrators	Female	% of Total Perpetrators	Male	% of Total Perpetrators	Total	% of Total Perpetrators
American Indian	0	0%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
Asian	0	0%	8	0.4%	8	0.4%
African-American	287	13.9%	871	42.2%	1,158	56.1%
Caucasian	136	6.6%	679	32.9%	815	39.5%
Hispanic	21	1.0%	60	2.9%	81	3.9%
Total	**44**	**21.5%**	**1,620**	**78.5%**	**2,064**	**100%**

* **House Bill 85**: Signed in July 1993. Requires that evidence of certain incidents of student conduct that occurs in Delaware schools be reported to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the Youth Division of the Delaware State Police.

Source: State of Delaware, Department of Public Instruction

Table 36:

School Enrollment

School Enrollment, All Persons Ages 3 and Over by Level and Public/Non-Public Status U.S. and Delaware, 1990 Census

	Total Enrollment All Persons Ages 3+ 1990	Percentage Change 1980–1990	Early Childhood Program 1990	Percentage in in Public School	Elementary/ High School	Percent in Public School
U.S.	64,987,101	4.7	4,503,285	59.5	42,566,788	90.2
Delaware	171,219	1.8	12,068	49.2	108,041	83.5

Source: Population Reference Bureau

Table 37:

Graduation Rate

Estimated Delaware Four-Year Graduation Rate, Public School Students, 1994

1990 Ninth Grade Enrollment		7,869
1994 Graduates		5,881
Day School Diplomas	5,230	
Records of Performances	57	
Adult High School Diplomas (19 & Under)	235	
G.E.D. (19 & Under)	359	
Graduation Rate		74.7

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

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Table 38:

Estimated Graduation Rates by Race

**Estimated Graduation Rates by Race, Ninth Grade to Graduation,
Day-School Diploma Graduates Only
Class of 1994**

	1990 Ninth Grade Enrollment				1994 Graduates				Estimated 4-year Graduation Rate			
Area	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	Total	Black	White	White/ Other	Total	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	Total
Delaware	2,290	261	5,318	7,869	1,171	137	3,922	5,230	51.1%	52.5%	73.7%	66.5%
New Castle	1,457	196	2,992	4,645	726	95	2,198	3,019	49.8%	48.5%	73.5%	65.0%
Kent	461	41	1,303	1,805	234	31	927	1,192	50.8%	75.6%	71.1%	66.0%
Sussex	372	24	1,023	1,419	211	11	797	1,019	56.7%	45.8%	77.9%	71.8%

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction, Assessment and Accountability Branch

Table 39:

"On-Time" Graduates

**History of Public School "On-Time" Day-School Diploma Graduates
Delaware, Class of 1985 through Class of 1994**

Year Entering 9th Grade	Estimated Graduation Rate 9th Grade to Graduation	Graduating Class of:
1981	70.3	1985
1982	70.7	1986
1983	71.0	1987
1984	69.8	1988
1985	71.5	1989
1986	68.5	1990
1987	68.0	1991
1988	69.6	1992
1989	70.2	1993
1990	66.5	1994

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Table 40:

Dropouts

Delaware Dropouts 1993–1994, Summary Statistics Grades 9–12

	Annual Dropout Rate (%)	Percentage of All Dropouts (%)
Total	4.6	100.0
Gender		
Male	4.8	52.9
Female	4.4	47.1
Race / Ethnicity		
White/Other	3.7	55.4
African-American	6.8	39.8
Hispanic	6.7	4.8
Age		
Under 16	3.1	18.2
16	5.0	28.4
17	5.7	29.8
18	4.5	16.5
Over 18	6.7	7.1

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Table 41:

Dropouts and Enrollment by Race

Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollment by Race, Public School Students Delaware and Counties, 1993–1994 School Year

Area	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All
Delaware	7,901	954	20,075	28,930	534	64	745	1,343
New Castle	5,018	678	11,335	17,031	331	46	444	821
Kent	1,494	177	4,617	6,288	117	7	148	272
Sussex	1,389	99	4,123	5,611	86	11	153	250

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

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Table 42:

Dropout Rate and Percentage by Race

Dropout Rate and Percentage of all Dropouts by Race, Public School Students
Delaware and Counties, 1993–1994 School Year

County	Annual Dropout Rate				Percentage of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All
Delaware	6.8	6.7	3.7	4.6	39.8	4.8	55.4	100.0
New Castle	6.6	6.8	3.9	4.8	40.3	5.6	54.1	100.0
Kent	7.8	4.0	3.2	4.3	43.0	2.6	54.4	100.0
Sussex	6.2	11.1	3.7	4.5	34.4	4.4	61.2	100.0

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Table 43:

Dropouts and Enrollment by Race and Gender

Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollment by Race and Gender
Public School Students in Delaware, 1993–1994 School Year

Gender	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All
Delaware	7,901	954	20,075	28,930	534	64	745	1,343
Male	3,929	479	10,281	14,689	278	38	394	710
Female	3,972	475	9,794	14,241	256	26	351	633

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Table 44:

Dropout Rate and Percentage by Race and Gender

Dropout Rate and Percentage of all Dropouts by Race and Gender
Public School Students in Delaware, 1993–1994 School Year

Gender	Annual Dropout Rate				Percentage of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/ Other	All
Delaware	6.8	6.7	3.7	4.6	39.8	4.8	55.4	100.0
Male	7.1	7.9	3.8	4.8	20.7	2.8	29.3	52.9
Female	6.4	5.5	3.6	4.4	19.1	1.9	26.1	47.1

Source: Delaware Department of Public Instruction

Table 45:

Teens Not in School and Not Working

Number and Percentage of Teens (16-19 Yrs.) Not in School and Not in the Labor Force
Delaware, Counties and City of Wilmington, 1990 Census

Area		Total	%	White	%	Black	%	Other	%	Hispanic Origin	%
Delaware											
	High School Graduate	472	1.3	310	1.1	152	2.0	10	0.9	5	0.5
	Not High School Graduate	1,433	3.8	811	2.8	564	7.6	58	5.0	57	5.5
New Castle											
	High School Graduate	313	1.2	212	1.0	91	2.0	10	1.2	5	0.7
	Not High School Graduate	864	3.4	467	2.4	357	7.8	40	4.9	36	5.0
Wilmington											
	High School Graduate	63	1.8	15	2.0	48	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Not High School Graduate	349	10.1	60	7.9	270	11.1	19	7.2	25	7.1
Kent											
	High School Graduate	73	1.1	58	1.2	15	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Not High School Graduate	268	4.0	172	3.6	89	5.1	7	2.7	2	0.8
Sussex											
	High School Graduate	86	1.6	40	1.0	46	4.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Not high school graduate	301	5.6	172	4.2	118	10.2	11	11.6	19	23.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 46:

Income of Families with Children by Family Type

Mean Income of Families With Own Children by Family Type, 1990 Census
Percent Change, 1980 and 1990 Census
U.S. and Delaware

Area	Married-Couple	Percent Change	Female Householder	Percent Change	Male Householder	Percent Change
U.S.	$48,880	11.2	$16,568	-1.4	$27,592	-10.7
Delaware	$53,832	19.7	$19,306	19.6	$28,736	-2.4

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center, Population Reference Bureau, U.S. Bureau of the Census

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Table 47:

Change in Poverty Rates for Children Under 18

Percent Change in Poverty Rates, Related Children Under 18 Years of Age
Delaware and Counties, 1980 and 1990 Census

Area	1980			1990			Percentage Rate Change 1980–1990
	All Children	Children below Poverty		All Children	Children below Poverty		
		Number	Rate		Number	Rate	
Delaware	163,534	25,463	15.6	159,941	18,697	11.7	-25.0
New Castle	107,300	15,313	14.3	104,087	9,848	9.5	-33.6
Kent	29,783	5,230	17.6	29,437	4,881	16.6	-5.7
Sussex	26,451	4,920	18.6	26,417	3,968	15.0	-19.4

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census
Poverty rates are per 100 children in the population
Related children include the family head's children by birth, marriage, or adoption, as well as other persons under age 18, such as nieces or nephews, who are related to the family head
Children under 18 who do not live in a household where they are related to the head of the household (referred to as the householder by the Census Bureau) are not included in this analysis

Table 48:

Change in Poverty Rates for Children Under 5

Percent Change in Poverty Rates, Related Children Under 5 Years of Age
Delaware and Counties, 1980 and 1990 Census

Area	1980			1990			Percentage Rate Change 1980–1990
	All Children	Children below Poverty		All Children	Children below Poverty		
		Number	Rate		Number	Rate	
Delaware	40,529	7,482	18.5	47,848	6,370	13.3	-28.1
New Castle	26,194	4,336	16.6	31,399	3,377	10.8	-34.9
Kent	7,843	1,724	22.0	8,990	1,673	18.6	-15.5
Sussex	6,492	1,422	21.9	7,459	1,320	17.7	-19.2

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 49:

Change in Poverty Rates for Children 5–17

Percent Change in Poverty Rates, Related Children 5 – 17 Years of Age
Delaware and Counties, 1980 and 1990 Census

Area	1980			1990			Percentage Rate Change 1980–1990
	All Children	Children below Poverty		All Children	Children below Poverty		
		Number	Rate		Number	Rate	
Delaware	123,005	17,981	14.6	112,093	12,327	11.0	-24.7
New Castle	81,106	10,977	13.5	72,688	6,471	8.9	-34.1
Kent	21,940	3,506	16.0	20,447	3,208	15.7	-1.9
Sussex	19,959	3,498	17.5	18,958	2,648	14.0	-20.0

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

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Table 50:

Change in Poverty Rates for Children

Percent Change in Poverty Rate, Number and Percent of Children in Poverty by Race and Hispanic Origin, Delaware, 1980 and 1990 Census

Race/ Hispanic Origin	Number of Children in Poverty	Percentage of Children in Poverty	Percent Change in Poverty Rate 1980–1990 Census
Delaware			
All Races	19,256	12.0	-23.0
White	7,543	6.3	-37.3
Black	10,600	30.8	-10.9
Hispanic	1,297	25.0	-41.9
Asian-American	149	6.6	2.7
Native American	80	21.5	83.3

Source: Population Reference Bureau, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 51:

Children Below Poverty Level

Percentage and Number of Children Below Poverty Level, Children Under 18 years of Age by Race and Hispanic Origin Delaware, Counties, and City of Wilmington, 1990 Census

Area	All Races	Whites	Black	Other	Hispanic Origin
Delaware	12.0%	6.3%	31.0%	19.7%	24.6%
	19,256	7,543	10,600	1,113	1,297
New Castle County	9.8%	4.4%	28.1%	17.1%	23.5%
	10,196	3,402	6,052	742	895
Wilmington	27.2%	6.9%	34.2%	34.4%	33.1%
	4,737	308	3,889	540	618
Balance of NC County	6.2%	4.2%	21.2%	7.3%	14.3%
	5,459	3,094	2,163	202	277
Kent County	16.9%	11.5%	34.7%	21.2%	22.6%
	4,995	2,557	2,276	162	239
Sussex County	15.4%	7.9%	37.3%	39.8%	40.5%
	4,065	1,584	2,272	209	163

Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

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Table 52:

WIC Programs

Number of Infants and Children Enrolled in WIC Programs Delaware, Fiscal Years 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Number of Children/Infants	1,776	7,236	6,671	6,358

Source: State of Delaware, Department of Health and Social Services

Table 53:

Subsidized Child Care

Average Number of Children Per Year in State Subsidized Child Care Delaware, Fiscal Years 1991–1993

	1991	1992	1993
Delaware Totals	2,942	3,542	4,629
AFDC Childcare*	1,165	1,509	2,038
Income Eligible**	1,777	2,082	2,591

* These numbers refer to the number of children in families who received AFDC that year or received AFDC child care for one year after leaving the AFDC program.
** These numbers reflect working poor families below 155% of poverty.
40% of children with authorization to receive subsidized child care attend in a given month.
Source: State of Delaware, Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families

Table 54:

Children without Health Insurance

Percentage of Children Not Covered by Health Insurance U.S. and Delaware, Three-Year Moving Averages, 1984–1993

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
U.S.	15.0	15.6	15.7	15.3	14.5	13.8	13.6	13.9	14.2	14.7
Delaware	14.2	15.1	15.1	14.9	12.6	12.6	12.8	14.2	12.7	12.5

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

Table 55:

Poverty Thresholds

Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years Annual Income in Dollars, U.S., 1993

Size of Family Unit	Related Children under 18 years old								
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight +
One person under 65 years old	$ 7,518								
One person 65 years old or older	6,930								
Two persons, householder under 65	9,676	9,960							
Two persons, householder 65 or older	8,734	9,922							
Three persons	11,303	11,631	11,642						
Four persons	14,904	14,148	14,654	14,703					
Five persons	17,974	18,235	17,677	17,245	16,981				
Six persons	20,673	20,755	20,328	19,918	19,308	18,947			
Seven persons	23,787	23,936	23,424	23,067	22,402	21,626	20,775		
Eight persons	26,604	26,839	26,356	25,932	25,332	24,569	23,776	23,374	
Nine persons or more	32,003	32,158	31,730	31,371	30,782	29,970	29,237	29,055	27,53o

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Table 56:

Families with Children by Family Type

Number and Percent of Families with Related Children Under 18 Years of Age by Family Type Delaware, 1980 and 1990 Census

Type of Family	1980		1990		Percentage Change 1980–1990
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
One-Parent	18,025	21.2	21,708	24.3	14.6
Male Head of Household	2,815	3.3	4,083	4.6	39.4
Female Head of Household	15,210	17.9	17,625	19.7	10.1
Married Couple	67,002	78.8	67,642	75.7	-3.9
Total	85,027	100.0	89,350	100.0	

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

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Table 57:

Poverty Rates for One-Parent Families

Poverty Rates for One-Parent Female (FHH) and Male (MHH) Householder Families With Related Children Under 18 Years of Age Delaware and Counties, 1990 Census

Area	One-Parent FHH Families	FHH Families below poverty		One-Parent MHH Families	MHH Families below Poverty		Risk of Poverty Ratio (FHH vs. MHH)
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Delaware	17,625	5,609	31.8	4,083	555	13.6	2.3
New Castle	11,625	3,202	27.5	2,627	264	10.0	2.8
Kent	3,193	1,257	39.4	614	127	20.7	1.9
Sussex	2,807	1,150	41.0	842	164	19.5	2.1

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 58:

Poverty Rates for Female Householder Families

Poverty Rates for One-Parent Female Householder (FHH) Families With Related Children Under 18 Years of Age Delaware and Counties, 1980 and 1990 Census

Area	1980			1990			Percent Change 1979–1989
	One-Parent FHH Families	FHH Families below poverty		One-Parent MHH Families	MHH Families below Poverty		
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Delaware	15,210	6,122	40.2	17,625	5,609	31.8	-20.9
New Castle	10,318	4,006	38.8	11,625	3,202	27.5	-29.1
Kent	2,737	1,180	43.1	3,193	1,257	39.4	-8.6
Sussex	2,155	936	43.4	2,807	1,150	41.0	-5.5

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 59:

Children in Poverty by Family Type

Related Children Under 18 in Poverty, Number and Percent by Family Type U.S. and Delaware, 1990 Census

	Children under 18 in Married Couple Families		Children under 18 in Female Headed Families		Children under 18 in Male Headed Families	
	Number in Poverty	Percentage in Poverty	Number in Poverty	Percentage in Poverty	Number in Poverty	Percentage in Poverty
U.S.	4,419,632	9.3	6,179,808	49.9	562,396	23.5
Delaware	5,282	4.3	12,471	39.9	944	14.0

Source: Population Reference Bureau, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 60:

Percentage of Births to Single Mothers

Five Year Average Percentage of Live Births to Single Mothers U.S., Delaware, Counties, 1981–1993

Area/Race	1981–1985	1982–1986	1983–1987	1984–1988	1985–1989	1986–1990	1987–1991	1988–1992	1989–1993
U.S.									
All Races	20.3	21.2	22.3	23.4	24.6	25.8	27.0	28.1	29.1
White	12.9	13.7	14.6	15.6	16.8	18.0	19.2	20.4	21.5
Black	58.0	59.1	60.2	61.3	62.6	63.9	65.2	66.4	67.4
Delaware									
All Races	25.2	25.7	26.3	26.4	27.3	27.9	28.9	29.9	31.3
White	12.7	13.1	13.7	14.2	14.9	15.4	16.3	17.3	18.6
Black	66.5	67.0	67.4	66.9	68.2	68.7	69.7	70.6	72.1
New Castle									
All Races	24.7	25.1	25.8	25.5	26.3	26.7	27.6	28.7	29.8
White	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.7	14.2	14.5	15.1	16.1	17.2
Black	68.3	68.7	68.9	68.7	69.5	69.8	70.6	71.5	72.5
Kent									
All Races	22.8	23.1	23.8	24.4	25.9	27.1	28.4	29.6	31.3
White	12.9	13.0	13.5	14.6	15.6	16.5	17.7	19.5	21.0
Black	55.4	56.5	57.5	56.9	59.2	60.6	62.0	62.4	64.8
Sussex									
All Races	29.8	30.7	31.5	32.2	33.0	33.5	34.9	35.5	37.2
White	12.2	13.2	14.4	16.3	17.3	18.2	19.7	20.4	22.2
Black	71.3	71.7	71.7	71.1	72.9	73.2	74.9	75.5	77.6

Sources: National Center of Health Statistics, Delaware Health Statistics Center

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Table 61:

Available Daycare

Number of Licensed Daycare Slots, Delaware, 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Daycare Centers*	13,530	14,481	15,642	16,727
Family Daycare**	8,889	10,400	11,070	11,891
Large Family Daycare***	286	308	336	424
Totals	22,705	25,189	27,048	29,042

* Daycare Center – 13 or more children
** Family Daycare – 1 person caring for no more than 6 children
*** Large Family Daycare – 2 people caring for a group of children not exceeding 12
Source: Delaware Department of Health and Social Services

Table 62:

Child Abuse and Neglect

Reported and Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse/Neglect, Delaware, 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Accepted Reports	3,764	4,074	4,430	4,541
Substantiated Claims	n/a	1,935 (47%)	2,183 (49%)	1,786 (39%)

Source: Delaware Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

Table 63:

Foster Care

Number of Children in Foster Care, Delaware, 1990–1993

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Average number of children per month	678	743	726	729

Source: Delaware Department of Health and Social Services

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